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QUALITY OF TACTICAL TRAINING CRITICIZED

Motorized Infantry Company Commander Criticism

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 18 May 77 p 2

[Article by Sr Lt A. Bezverkhniy, motorized rifle company commander, Northern Group of Forces: "What Is Impeding the Campaign for Quality"]

[Text] Based on the results of the winter period of training, our company is among the regiment's socialist competition winners. Analyzing these past months, however, I am becoming convinced that the quality of a number of training drills, and this means the effectiveness of the training process as a whole as well, could have been better. Did we utilize all reserve potential?

I recall a tactical-drill exercise in the platoon led by Sr Lt I. Zayats. The drill topic was complex: "The platoon in attack." I went to the training area especially to assist the platoon leader, to assume part of the work load. But I soon sensed that my assistance was not needed. Senior Lieutenant Zayats had planned out the drill in every detail. A high degree of demandingness on the men, competition on each and every item, and an optimal tactical background -- all this made the drill interesting and dynamic. I shall not call it ideal: perhaps some might have done an even better job. But I returned from the field satisfied: it was pleasant to realize that the officer had put all his skill and productive energy into the drill.

I also remember an engineer training drill in the platoon led by Lt B. Utyagin. Prior to the drill I had a long talk with the young officer (such an opportunity does not always present itself), during which we mentally went through the drill and discussed how best to organize competition in meeting performance standards. The platoon leader assured me that the exercise would be "up to snuff."

In actual fact it was not. They were working, for example, on meeting the performance standard for digging a foxhole. This was a perfect situation

for competition, to determine who would select the best foxhole site, who would do the best and fastest job of digging it, and who would have the best arc of fire. But the drill leader did not organize competition. I was forced to intervene.

That evening I had another talk with Lieutenant Utyagin. This one was much more unpleasant, because the young officer could not comprehend his mistakes. I did not sense in him a desire to be more demanding on himself. In this situation it was out of the question to make allowances for his youth. It is difficult to amass know-how if one does not study methods literature and ignores recommendations.

Inertness on the part of leaders is one of the reasons why some training activities fail to leave a deep mark in personnel training. I remember well a statement made by Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev at a get-together with Tula party activists. The second year of the current five-year plan, stressed the CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, is the year of the 60th anniversary of Soviet rule. This signifies that each and every one of us, no matter where he works, should be double and triple demanding on himself and on his labor.

This is the position from which we must assess our labor today. The level of combat readiness and quality of field proficiency begins with personal responsibility on the part of each individual.

Recently the company went to the moving-target range to practice firing while mounted on infantry combat vehicles. As it turned out, we could not do any firing -- the target information system had not been checked. While the range operator was doing what he should have been doing prior to the exercise, the subunit stood around waiting. Precious time was lost, the rhythm of the training process was disrupted, and enthusiasm was dampened.

Or take another incident. The company had just begun to perform an exercise when the command came to stop everything. It seems that a tactical exercise was supposed to be held in the training area at the same time. Both the exercise and the firing drill had been scheduled in advance, by the same entity, regimental headquarters. But the schedule turned out to be defective.

There are many such rough edges. Ammunition supply was a minute late; the manager of the warehouse where simulation devices are issued was not at his post; it took longer than planned to fuel the vehicles.... I don't believe that it needs to be stated that all this is related to the quality of the training process.

The men of our company, just as those of the other subunits in the battalion and regiment, are campaigning to honor the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution with excellent results. Whether or not the specified performances will be achieved depends on each and every one of us.

Editorial Comment

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jun 77 p 2

[Text] On 18 May KRASNAYA ZVZDA published a report by motorized rifle company commander Sr Lt A. Bezverkhniy entitled "What Is Impeding the Campaign for Quality." The article evoked responses. Several of them appear below.

From Odessa Military District

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jun 77 p 2

[Letter by Col N. Petrov, Red-Banner Odessa Military District: "Prisoner of Convention"]

[Text] Company commander Sr Lt A. Bezverkhniy is correct when he states that the effectiveness of exercises and drills depends in large measure on the background situation created. Every leader is cognizant of the harm caused by unnecessary relaxation of demands and unnecessary simplification. And yet this frequently occurs in practice. Why?

I should like to share some observations made at a recent tactical exercise.

The motorized rifle battalion under the command of Lt Col A. Gelyuta was attacking an "aggressor" strong point. The assault was swift. The subunit maneuvered with precision. One felt that the men had worked productively at tactical-drill exercises and were displaying great effort in this training battle. But after a minute or two it became evident that the battalion was attacking an... unoccupied position. Lt V. Yefimenkov, commanding officer of the company playing the "aggressor," had withdrawn his subunit during the night to another area and was poised for a counterattack. He had left at the strong point only a small group of men, who were giving the appearance of "intensive" fortification activities. Lieutenant Yefimenko succeeded fully in his ruse. The attacking battalion found itself in a most difficult situation.

While not minimizing the performance of the commanding officer of the defending company, we should note that his maneuver was not particularly innovative. It was extensively utilized during the war. Nevertheless Lt Col A. Gelyuta and his staff turned out not to be prepared for it.

Here is another incident. The engineers of Lt N. Osadchiy's float bridge company were building a bridge. The river was spanned 20 minutes ahead of schedule. Was this a good or bad thing? It would seem to be a rather strange question: surpassing of performance standards deserves only praise. But one must also intelligently utilize the ability of a subunit to perform faster than scheduled. In this instance the bridge, which the troops did not reach until 20 minutes later, prematurely became a target for "aggressor" aircraft.

In addition, "surpassing" of the performance standard was highly arbitrary. It was not based on a high degree of proficiency. In building the bridge, the men of the company had neither weapons nor steel helmets. The trucks, on delivering pontoons to the river, remained on the riverbank, unsheltered, although according to the scenario the bridge was being constructed while under fire.

What are the common traits of these incidents, which are different in character? Both attest to a low quality of training. I am convinced that in actual combat with a strong adversary Lt Col A. Gelyuta would organize reconnaissance differently, and the pontoniers would also perform differently. At the exercise they deliberately simplified things. And these are by no means isolated incidents. Exercise directors many times fail to set for themselves the clear-cut goal of ensuring that the exercise is original in concept, demanding of the men maximum presence of mind and preparedness to perform unexpected tasks which arise suddenly. Nor is a line always drawn between genuinely high indices engendered by competition and imaginary "records."

I agree with Sr Lt V. Bezverkhniy: the path toward improvement in the quality of the training process lies through increasing demandingness on training instructors and the trainees themselves.

From Turkestan Military District

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jun 77 p 2

[Letter by Sr Lt V. Nikolayev, Red-Banner Turkestan Military District: "It Depends on Each"]

[Text] Gentlemen! I read with interest the article written by Sr Lt A. Bezverkhniy. The author is in command of a motorized rifle company. I am commanding officer of a battery of self-propelled guns. But it would seem that our concerns are identical. The shortcomings mentioned in the article are typical.

A large number of officials and technical specialists participate in organizing the training process and training facilities. If any of them has an insufficient sense of responsibility toward his duties, this has an immediate effect on the performance of subunits.

Here is a good example. In my battery the crews are currently working on smoothness and coordination. We have been attaching great importance to drills aimed at meeting an important performance standard -- loading the full battle scale of ammunition. We thought through the entire structure, scheduled the dynamics minute by minute, and got everybody into a mood for competition. The drill began with a half-hour delay, however, and only because Warrant Officer S. Krutskiy, who is in charge of the ammunition depot, was late to work.

We had just started the exercise when orders came from headquarters to detail three men for garrison duty, and yet the details should have been designated earlier. I believe that the person who failed to do so is least concerned with the quality of training drills.

The quality of training activities is directly dependent on the overall level of organization and efficiency. One is always offended on encountering individuals who are indifferent to the needs of the subunits, their training schedules and pledges.

From Central Asian Military District

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jun 77 p 2

[Letter by Capt B. Yermoshin, tank company commander, Red-Banner Central Asian Military District: "Foresight -- A Commander Trait"]

[Text] The letter written by Sr Lt A. Bezverkhniy reminded me of the following incident. My company arrived at the tank practice area for driving practice, when suddenly one of the tanks broke down. The crew was forced to repair the tank rather than practice operating it. Who is to blame for what happened? The vehicle driver alone? Of course not. The person in charge of the activity should on the day preceding the exercise check to ensure that the equipment is ready. I had failed to do so. We learned a valuable lesson from this.

Recently my company was engaged in a gunnery exercise. The exercise area was desert terrain. Sometimes the wind drifts sand over the target tracks and "eats away" the defilading parapets. On the eve of the exercise Lt A. Vorob'yev took a team of men and thoroughly checked all equipment and the operating condition of the vehicles. The following day there were no problems.

Senior Lieutenant Bezverkhniy related an incident where a training area had been assigned by mistake to two different subunits at the same time. For this we can blame those who made the scheduling error, but lost time cannot be recovered. While trusting the regimental schedule, I nevertheless submit an additional request to the officer in charge of the training center the day before the scheduled activity. It is always possible that something has been overlooked or changed. Foresight is a commander trait.

We have no problems in organizing activities in the summer training period. The company is successfully meeting the training schedule and its pledges in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

From the Central Group of Forces

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jun 77 p 2

[Letter from Grds Capt I. Khvedchenya, Central Group of Forces: "In the Role of Observer"]

[Text] Sr Lt A. Bezverkhniy is correct in stating that the quality of the training process in the regiment should be the concern of everybody.

Unfortunately even the chiefs of the services, for whom the conduct of training activities in their area of specialization is a direct duty, at times assume the role of observers in combat training.

In our regiment every platoon leader will give thanks to Grds Lt A. Rudenko. This service chief helps properly organize training drills and personally conducts many of them. But nobody can remember when Grds Sr Lt V. Shkityr', also a service chief, last conducted training activities.

The chief of an arm or service is not simply the most competent specialist in some area of military knowledge. In directing a training activity he demonstrates an example of methods skill to platoon leaders and company commanders. The latter receive a certain amount of extra time for more thorough preparation for other training activities.

3024

CSO: 1801

MOTORIZED INFANTRY NCO COMMAND TRAINING PRAISED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jun 77 p 1

[Article by Grds Maj N. Kotov: "In a Complex Situation"]

[Text] The situation in the simulated engagement had become suddenly more complicated. The "aggressor" counterattacked the company with the element of surprise. Quickly estimating the situation, the company commander began issuing orders. Suddenly the exercise director "removed" from combat two platoon leaders simultaneously. Such things can occur in combat.

The platoon sergeants took command of their platoons. Grds Sr Lt A. Bolunov, vigorously deploying his platoon, occupied an advantageous position on high ground. Grds Sgt A. Rybakov executed a swift maneuver and brought his men into the rear of the counterattacking force.

Following the simulated engagement the higher commander noted the good tactical preparedness of the platoon sergeants and their excellent volitional qualities. He then congratulated the platoon leaders, who had trained such capable assistants. The officers of the motorized rifle battalion under the command of Grds Maj A. Shevchenko experienced much success at the end of the winter period of training. The battalion successfully completed the training program and met the socialist pledges of the first phase of competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. But such high praise for the commander abilities of their sergeants was particularly pleasing. It was the result of considerable painstaking effort.

The methodology of this work has long since been defined. Commander and instructor-methods classes, conferences, instruction sessions, service conferences, exchange of know-how, lectures on topics of military education science and psychology.... All these forms of training and indoctrination are important and interlinked. But commander training activities should set the tone of all work with NCO personnel. Everybody understands this, but in practice it frequently happens that patently inadequate attention is devoted to development in squad and weapon crew leaders sufficiently broad tactical knowledge, an understanding of the nature of combat and the ability to command

men in critical situations. The result is that an NCO improves his methods skills and can do a fair job of training his men at a given training station, but he fails to possess genuine preparedness to command a squad or weapon crew in combat and to make independent decisions displaying initiative.

In the battalion under the command of Guards Major Shevchenko, commander training activities became the foundation of all work with the NCOs. Here it is clearly evident that it is also easier to resolve problems of method and military indoctrination with lower-echelon commanders who feel confident in simulated combat and who are psychologically conditioned.

Guards Major Shevchenko pays just as much attention to each commander training activity with his NCOs as with his officers. I shall describe one such training activity.

On the preceding day the battalion commander had personally visited the location of the lesson. While there he considered the most acceptable variants of work on the topic. Grds Warrant Officer I. Pukhov received detailed instructions on how to designate the "aggressor" and on what means of simulation should be used.

The tactical problem assigned to the NCOs was precisely in conformity with the terrain. Formalized documents were prepared taking terrain characteristics into account. Before leaving for the field each NCO was given a diagram containing the tactical situation. It contained only a general designation of the "aggressor" forward positions and a minimal number of spotted and located weapons. The trainees were to acquire other information in the course of the exercise. It began en route to the tactical training area. The NCOs reconnoitered the route, acquired skills in controlling squads and weapon crews while repulsing an "aggressor" air attack, while wiping out reconnaissance-raiding parties and crossing "contaminated" zones.

As soon as the NCOs reached the observation post, they heard the sound of machinegun bursts. The men proceeded to mark the place of origin of the fire on the diagram. But only the most experienced succeeded. The exercise director informed them that the group had been spotted due to carelessness in concealment and camouflage. The NCOs moved to a trench, while shells burst at the site of the abandoned observation post. Simulation at this exercise was effective, although a limited quantity of explosives was employed.

Without going into all details of the exercise, I shall mention that the NCOs also performed the role of platoon leaders. In this capacity they performed topographic and tactical orientation, refined the line indicating the forward edge of the battle area and the dispositions of "aggressor" personnel and weapons, and placed all the obtained information on the diagram. Radio communications were actively utilized at the exercise.

I know from experience that commander training of NCOs is not organized as efficiently everywhere. Lack of time is a frequent excuse.

"The reason for a lack of time," stated Guards Major Shevchenko, "is that the NCOs were not taught independence, responsible performance of their duties. Time expended on preparing for commander training with NCOs pays off very rapidly."

When issuing an operation order, the platoon leader specifically designates the platoon sergeant as his second in command. The platoon sergeant should be prepared at all times to take over command of the platoon. Will he be able to lead his men through the severe tests of modern combat to victory? This depends in large measure on the quality of commander training, on the role assigned to NCOs in the subunit, and on their degree of activeness in daily routine. NCOs are knowledgeable and strong-willed leaders in the battalion under the command of Guards Major Shevchenko.

3024

CSO: 1801

HELICOPTER REGIMENT COMBAT TRAINING RESULTS

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jun 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Col N. Bogatkin, deputy commander of the Red-Banner Helicopter Regiment imeni V. I. Lenin, Military Pilot 1st Class, Red-Banner Far Eastern Military District: "Bearing Lenin's Name"]

[Excerpts] "'Imeni Vladimir Il'ich Lenin' shall be added to the official designation of the 1st Air Reconnaissance Squadron." Reading Order No 367 of the USSR Revolutionary Military Council, dated 9 March 1924, we seem to perceive this event in a new light, more deeply and more fully, today, at the threshold of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. The name of the leader of the revolution is infinitely dear to the hearts of the aviators of our regiment, just as it is to every Soviet citizen. The entire life and career of Il'ich constitute for us an inexhaustible source of inspiration and energy in the struggle for the triumph of the ideals of communism and strengthening of the might of our homeland.

The regiment's combat chronicle has preserved the pulsating breathing of devastating battles against the interventionist and White Guardist hordes, relating the story of the first years of the fiery youth of the Soviet Republic, when a ring of battle fronts was closing around it. "The socialist homeland is in danger!" -- this appeal by Lenin mobilized additional fighting men to defend the cause of the the Great October Revolution. The first aviation detachments were formed in the fall of 1918 on the personal instructions of Vladimir Il'ich. Three of them -- the 24th, 35th, and 49th -- subsequently formed the 1st Reconnaissance Squadron, which became the nucleus of our regiment.

The men of our regiment fought bravely against the Japanese militarists at Lake Khasan and in the flaming skies of the Great Patriotic War.

In the postwar period our regiment was awarded the Order of the Red Banner for excellent service to the Soviet homeland, for courage displayed in combat, as well as for success in combat and political training. This coveted award inspired the men to new achievements in combat performance improvement.

Be on guard at all times, tirelessly improve combat readiness, strengthen organization and discipline, perform in an exemplary manner assigned tasks in the most complex situation -- this is how our aviators define their tasks, persistently carrying out our leader's command to study military affairs in a proper manner. Initiating the Armed Forces socialist competition to honor the Vladimir Il'ich Lenin Birth Centennial, our regiment earned the title of excellent. It has held this high rating for 7 years in a row now.

But the men are not resting on their laurels. The ideological conditioning of the men and the solidarity of the collective are becoming stronger in the routine days of military labor. The finest aviators are joining the party organization. At the present time practically all officers in the regiment are Communists and Komsomol members.

The men of this regiment pledged high achievements in competition to honor the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. In the course of training classes and drills and in performing flight training tasks, our aviators are vigorously campaigning for a further improvement in combat readiness, efficiency and quality of combat training, improvement in proficiency ratings, and safety in flight operations. The winter period of training became a new stage of significant improvement in air performance proficiency. For example, four out of every five pilots in the squadron of experts under the command of Maj V. Fankin are highly proficiency-rated. The squadron commander himself is a sharpshooter pilot. At a recent exercise, performing in a difficult tactical situation, our aviators gave ground troops effective close air support with accurate missile airstrikes.

Every tactical flight exercise is for us a serious test of combat maturity. Therefore we draw up the schedule of preparation for an exercise in such a manner as to make the conditions of performance of combat training tasks approach the actual combat situation to a maximum degree. The subunit commanders are given extensive opportunity to display initiative and innovativeness. At the most recent exercise the squadron's aircrews flew a common mission but operated from various landing sites. The squadron commanders independently determined detailing of men and equipment, flight formation and route, as well as type of maneuver over the battlefield.

Successful accomplishment of this complex mission demonstrated the increased maturity of the young commanders as organizers for combat as well as their tactical skills. Various scenario developments occurred. The "aggressor" was counterattacking, vigorously maneuvering, changing his direction of attack. But at the critical moments the squadron's helicopters appeared suddenly over the battlefield, delivered accurate, devastating strikes and thwarted the intentions of the opposing side.

The aviators demonstrated the ability to perform with tactical proficiency at low altitudes, taking advantage of the mountain-taiga terrain features. The helicopters would sometimes break up into smaller groups, hitting the flank and rear of the counterattacking force, and at times they would take

concealment behind hills, popping up suddenly to delivery a devastating attack.

These are experienced air warriors. But the younger men also successfully pass the test of combat. Lts N. Matveyev and L. Kuznetsov, for example, who have been in the regiment only 6 months, also distinguished themselves at the exercise, accurately hitting "aggressor" tanks with antitank missiles. The rapid professional development of young aviators is a sign of the times. Contributing factors include the indoctrinational role of competition and painstaking work with individuals by the instructors -- the flight leaders and squadron commanders. Party and Komsomol activists give them effective assistance in improving the proficiency of the air warriors.

The force of socialist competition and its beneficent moral influence are actively utilized in the squadron which is competing with the squadron of experts. On the basis of achieved results in combat training as well as strengthening of discipline and procedures, this military collective has already become a serious competitor for the squadron of experts and frequently leads in the competition. Naturally this is to the credit of the commanders and indoctrinators of their subordinates.

Organization of the training process today requires a scientific approach and improvement in the style of all work performed. Today science has entered the classrooms, and has come to the airfields and gunnery ranges. We perform the tasks of planning combat training, mastering new equipment, organization of flight operations, and improving the quality of flight performance taking into the account the increasing demands of contemporary combat. All this dictates the necessity of constantly improving methods, as well as knowledge of aerodynamics and tactics, military education science and psychology. Commanders and political workers devote unabating attention to the problems of organization of competition, recognizing it as a powerful mobilizing force. A statement made by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 16th Congress of USSR Trade Unions has become a guide to action in this area: "Competition is an indispensable means of indoctrinating the new man and helps his political growth and moral improvement." In the light of the party's instructions we are striving extensively to utilize the Leninist principles of organization of competition -- extensive publicity, comparability of results, and the possibility of copying advanced know-how. We are primarily concerned with creating in the course of combat training an atmosphere of intensive competition and healthy rivalry among the flights.

The overall success of the entire collective is comprised of the success of each individual. But we do not rest on our laurels. Aviators remember V. I. Lenin's behest to display constant vigilance, to maintain a high degree of preparedness to defend the achievements of the October Revolution. This Lenin command is in the hearts and deeds of the younger generation of air warriors, who are worthily adding to the glorious traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces. With their selfless military labor the men of our regiment are tirelessly improving their combat skills and are strengthening discipline and organization, in order honorably to carry out any order the homeland may give.

AIR COMBAT TRAINING RESULTS IN THE NORTHERN GROUP OF FORCES

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jun 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen Avn V. Barmin, Commanding General, Aviation, Northern Group of Forces: "Smooth Coordination Between Flight Leader and Wingman"]

[Text] During a tactical flight exercise the "aggressor" mounted a massive air attack. Air regimental commander Grds Lt Col E. Shubin precisely directed the actions of the fighter groups; each received a specific mission, and the control center successfully vectored them to the targets. But suddenly the situation became more complicated -- a new target was swiftly approaching the defended installation from another direction. A fighter flight under the command of Grds Capt V. Zonov was closest to it at this time. How should they proceed? The regimental commander decided to send the second pair from this flight to intercept the newly-appeared target.

The flight leader of this pair was Grds Sr Lt N. Kuchkov. Some had doubts as to whether the young pilot could handle the mission. "He can handle it," confidently stated the regimental commander. Soon reports came in to the control center: both Grds Capt V. Zonov and Guards Senior Lieutenant Kuchkov had successfully attacked the targets at the specified points.

This was not the only example at the tactical flight exercise where fighters performed missions in pairs and flights. And we must state that in each instance, sometimes in extremely critical and tense situations, the pilots skillfully achieved tactical and fire coordination, which enabled them to deliver swift, unstoppable attacks.

Well aware of the great importance of the role of flight leader in achieving smooth combat coordination of a fighter pair and flight, leading commanders devote constant attention to the training and indoctrination of this category of officer. They place main emphasis on boosting their flight qualifications and developing command skills in them. This approach has a beneficent influence on improving pilot combat proficiency, in improving the group coordination of pairs, flights and squadrons, and in the final analysis helps increase the combat readiness of the unit.

As we know, the position of flight leader is taken by the officer in command of the flight and senior pilot. Their duties, however, are not identical. The officer in command of a flight is the immediate mentor of the pilots under him; he as the flight training instructor primarily determines the degree of pilot proficiency, the combat smoothness and coordination of both fighter pairs, and the entire atmosphere in the collective. Training methods sessions are held regularly with flight leaders. They increase their knowledge of theory and acquire practical skills in the course of commander training, at demonstration and flight-methods classes, as well as at various technical and methods conferences, which have recently become quite widespread.

The point of course is not in the total number of these activities proper; it is important that all these proven forms of training be closely coordinated with the concrete combat training tasks and supplemented by painstaking individual indoctrinational work at the aircrew and subunit level. This is the way things are handled, for example, in the squadron under the command of Lt Col I. Smorodin. A skilled methods specialist and thoughtful commander-indoctrinator, he has trained many first-class air warriors. It is not surprising that the squadron maintains its rating of excellent and is known for its firm solidarity and combat smoothness. Many fighter pair flight leaders and fighter flight commanders who have advanced to higher positions went through the "Smorodin school."

Analyzing the work experience of leading commanders, one becomes convinced that the following rule has become the foundation of their activities: senior teaches junior. This would seem to be a well-known truism, but it needs reminding. Why, for example, does it happen that in the squadron under the command of Maj V. Ryzhov flight leaders Capt V. Belov and N. Berezhmoy can teach their men only the rudiments of flying -- in the pattern and in the practice area? Neither teaches his men coordination or combat flying. The reason for this is that they themselves are not prepared as instructors.

How can we ensure that every flight leader is able to train his men under all conditions, and particularly the fighter pair leader? Of course we cannot give some all-purpose recipe. And the point is not only that different individuals, with a differing level of proficiency, require a different approach to their training. The point lies in diversification of tasks performed by the subunit. At the same time there is a unified, practically-tested form of improving instructor skills -- commander flights.

A high degree of flying skill is without question an important indicator of the flying proficiency of the flight leader. But if we consider the fact that as a rule young officers are designated flight leaders, naturally at first they require continuous assistance from their senior comrades. It is particularly important to teach the young commander the ability to both train and indoctrinate his subordinates.

Smooth coordination by a two-fighter flight constitutes not only the flying and tactical skills of the leader and his wingman but also the spiritual unity of these individuals, their deep awareness of military duty and total dedication to the homeland. Therefore in combat training and service the flight leader must primarily himself show an example, persistently indoctrinating excellent moral-political qualities. This is no simple skill, particularly for young officers.

Take, for example, the post-flight critique at the flight echelon. Is each and every young commander capable of conducting it in an interesting and instructive manner? This is a very effective form of training. With an intelligent pedagogic approach, the post-flight critique can become for the men an excellent school of both combat and moral growth. How should one best utilize those objective verification data which recreate not only a true picture of the quality of flying but also to a certain degree portray the abilities of the air warrior? A careful analysis of these data makes it possible to determine where a pilot has made a mistake due to experience and where it has been due to fear of a heavy work overload, let us say, because of doubts that he is up to handling the aircraft. Such a critique-analysis of the "nuances" of a flight, conducted skillfully and tactfully by a commander, will unquestionably be a good indoctrinational lesson.

The flight leader of the second pair of fighters is the flight leader's combat assistant. Although he is technically a senior pilot, essentially he is also the deputy commander. The fact that flight leaders are appointed precisely from this category of flight personnel speaks for itself: the flight leader of the second pair of fighters in a flight is the most highly-trained and prepared air warrior; a senior pilot, he also acquires the skills of an indoctrinator. In those subunits where there is genuine concern with developing commander qualities in senior pilots, as a rule the fighter pairs show the greatest performance smoothness.

A good example is that same guards fighter air regiment under the command of Grds Lt Col E. Shubin. In this regiment all fighter-pair leaders possess flying qualifications of specialist 1st and 2d class. Consistently high performance in combat training and competition and in strengthening military discipline is achieved thanks to purposeful indoctrination work with fighter-pair leaders. They are gradually familiarized with commander duties, are instructed to prepare reports taking into account current tasks and missions, and are involved in flying-methods work and volunteer activities.

Socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution promotes increased flying skills in fighter-pair leaders and consolidation of aircrews and subunits. Proficiency ratings and qualitative indices in combat training are as a rule higher in those collectives where competition is organized concretely, taking into account the specific features of the tasks performed by the various aviator categories. In one unit, for example, the fighter-pair leaders pledge to study the equipment, aerodynamics, and to master tactics. The classes and training drills

conducted with them are permeated with elements of combat competitiveness. In totaling up results the commanders take into consideration the degree of combat smoothness of each fighter pair and the precision of coordination between leader and wingman in performing a given mission.

Graphic comparability of achieved results impels people to campaign vigorously for new and higher levels of combat improvement and serves as an effective means of indoctrination and further strengthening of discipline and solidarity of the collectives. And this is very important, for the complex and diversified process of development of fighter-pair leaders, their place and role in the subunit and unit are determined by the moral climate which is established in the military collective.

CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed in his address at the 16th Trade Union Congress that the labor collective constitutes a kind of home, family and school for a person. It is precisely here -- from heart to heart -- that communist ideology, dedication to the party cause and willingness to be at the forefront at all times are transmitted to young people. These words also apply in full measure to the military collective. It is our common duty to be concerned for an atmosphere of good will and a sensitive, comradely attitude toward others. In combination with proper commander demandingness, such attention to others creates optimal conditions for the development of young officers.

The Communist Party and Soviet Government, unswervingly implementing the Leninist behests on defense of the socialist homeland, display unflagging concern for strengthening the nation's defense capability and providing the army and navy with modern combat equipment. These days the aviators of the Northern Group of Forces are acquainting themselves with deep satisfaction with the draft new USSR Constitution and endorse it enthusiastically and unanimously. They strongly intend to carry out their duty in an exemplary manner, to gain a consummate mastery of the equipment and weapons entrusted to them, and to be prepared at all times to carry out any order given by the homeland -- Soviet aviators see this as their principal task.

Seeking to honor the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution with additional success in training and service, air units and subunits have adopted ambitious socialist pledges. That immense work being done by commanders, staff, political agencies and party organizations in the area of training and indoctrination of a large detachment of flight-command personnel -- fighter-pair leaders and flight leaders -- is also directed toward the campaign for successfully meeting these pledges and for further increasing the effectiveness and quality of flying proficiency.

3024
CSO: 1801

TRAINING RESULTS IN HIGHER AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING SCHOOL

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jun 77 p 2

[Article by Engr-Maj Gen V. Pavlov, Commanding Officer, Ryazan' Higher Military Automotive Engineering School: "Incentive for Activeness"]

[Text] In order better to prepare their graduates for service in line units, our service schools are constantly seeking optimal forms of organization of the training process and are improving facilities. As experience shows, however, personal cognitive activity on the part of the students and cadets is also essential for successful assimilation of the growing stream of information. How can this be achieved?

Socialist competition is a tested and proven means of increasing activeness both in training and other areas of activity. It promotes indoctrination of people in a spirit of a Communist attitude toward labor, strengthens discipline and organization, engenders a feeling of personal responsibility for the assigned task, and promotes innovative search and a full effort. A good deal can be achieved by skillfully utilizing socialist competition.

Take, for example, our graduating course directed by Sr Lt V. Fedorin. They always achieve success in training and service. These excellent results are dictated to a considerable degree by the fact that matters pertaining to meeting socialist pledges are a matter of constant concern to the course leader, course officers, the party and Komsomol organizations. Their efforts are directed primarily toward ensuring a high degree of enthusiasm and continuity of competition.

What does this mean? Sometimes pledges are made for the current semester and virtually forgotten until examination time. Only then does the "campaign" for high marks begin. With this approach it is naturally difficult to achieve stable results. Thorough knowledge and solid practical skills are not acquired in haste.

The picture is totally different in the course under the command of Senior Lieutenant Fedorin. There is a constant and continuous effort to ensure

a high degree of effectiveness of competition. Just before the semester begins, the course director holds a conference of NCOs, party and Komsomol activists. At this conference they discuss the performance and consider the capabilities of each student. This of course does not signify that a certain performance framework is established in advance for the competitors. Pledges are made on an entirely voluntary basis. But of course the commanding officer must help the student correctly assess his capabilities and direct him toward an effort to achieve a concrete performance level.

These conferences are held in the course of the entire semester. But subsequently the topic of discussion is fulfillment of pledges. How is the student progressing with the current material? What marks has he received? Is he displaying sufficient activeness in class? Thanks to this approach, the slightest backsliding is immediately apparent. Measures are determined in joint consultation, to be taken in order to boost the pace of competition and to eliminate various shortcomings. The names of those individuals who can profitably share their know-how with their comrades are stated, and matters pertaining to assisting lagging performers are resolved.

Considerable attention is devoted in this subunit to publicity of competition. Display stands in the Lenin Room exhibit the results of the preceding semester and the performances achieved by students in competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Special tables record marks received at seminars, practical classes, and for course projects. The dynamics of meeting socialist pledges are regularly examined at party and Komsomol meetings, bureau meetings, and are discussed in the wall newspapers.

This work style is also typical of other course directors and commanders of cadet subunits. Senior Lieutenant Fedorin has made innovations, as have major V. Lebed' and others. But they all pursue a common end goal: to utilize competition with maximum effectiveness in order to ensure high-quality training of automotive-specialization officers.

Thus the first and very important direction leading to success is continuity of competition and unrelenting attention toward competition dynamics. It would be erroneous, however, to assume that one can limit oneself to this. Even under the conditions of a service school, where the bulk of the time is devoted to classes and drills, one cannot stop with recording and analyzing current progress and comparison of marks received by the cadets. There is no question about it; a given grade reflects a level of knowledge and firmness of practical skills. The indoctrinational, moral aspects of competition, however, possess no less significance.

Indeed, a cadet's grades are without question an important but still far from the sole indicator characterizing the complex process of forming the future officer. What is the individual's attitude toward study and work? To what extent is he concerned by the affairs of the military collective? Does he take part in the civil affairs and volunteer activities of the subunit? These questions should not be ignored.

I recall the following incident. Cadet A. Seregin had to study his textbook and notes for long hours in order to receive a grade of four in a certain subject. And yet Jr. Sgt A. Prozorovskiy, who assimilates the material more easily, achieved the same grade without any particular effort. Can one ignore this in totaling up intermediate competition results and examining the course of meeting pledges at a service conference, party or Komsomol meeting?

At first glance it would seem that there is nothing to consider: the grades are identical. Nevertheless the experienced commander-indoctrinator will draw a different conclusion, for a person should be rewarded not only for the final result but also for the concrete labor expended on achieving it. The first cadet worked with a total effort. The second, if he had shown greater effort and persistence, could have received a grade of five. If the two are rated equal, instilling of industriousness and a conscientious attitude toward performance of duty will prove to be secondary. And yet these qualities are just as necessary to the future officer as firm knowledge.

Sometimes one encounters facts of a different kind. Let us say that there are two individuals in the same cadet platoon who receive approximately equal grades. But Sr. Sgt G. Gulin, for example, is always willing to help a comrade with his studies and takes active part in all measures conducted in the subunit and at the school. Cadet V. Orlov is concerned primarily with his own personal progress.

Sometimes importance is not attached to this. The name of such a self-centered individual is proudly stated at meetings and conferences. Of course, he receives excellent grades and is the pride of the class! And in the final analysis perhaps a pretty fair specialist graduates, but for him the main objective is personal advancement.

I would say that under the conditions of a service school the moral, indoctrinational aspect of competition assumes particular significance, for we are dealing not only with results achieved today in training but with the shaping of qualities of the future officer-leader. If commanders, political workers and instructors succeed in instilling in a cadet a conscientious attitude toward labor, respect for the collective, and teach him to work with full effort, he will definitely enjoy success during his schooling and in his subsequent service as well.

At the service school students not only master a certain quantity of knowledge. They are experiencing here a school of life, a school of indoctrination. Precisely for this reason, when organizing socialist competition and scrutinizing the course of pledge fulfillment at any stage, everything should not be reduced merely to points and percentages. The commander-competition organizer should set for himself the goal of forming in the men qualities inherent in the person campaigning for the building of communism, the bold defender of the socialist homeland, should mobilize all his abilities to overcome difficulties. Only in this case will it become a powerful stimulus for activeness and promote successful accomplishment of the assigned tasks.

IMPORTANCE OF COMPANY-LEVEL POLITICAL WORK STRESSED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jun 77 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen V. Burdov: "Success Is Forged in the Company"]

[Text] Commanders and political workers are today increasingly persistently seeking to achieve a situation where the company constitutes in the full sense the focal point of indoctrinational efforts which are diversified in goals, resources and forms and which are closely interlinked. This is dictated by the demands of a comprehensive approach to indoctrination and increasing tasks connected with shaping the character of the individual soldier and military collectives.

5th Tank Company.... The reputation of this subunit, which is under the command of young guards officer Sr Lt G. Lisovskiy, has spread far beyond the confines of the garrison, and not only because the company rolls contain permanently inscribed the tank crew of Heroes of the Soviet Union Lt Pavel Rak, Sgts Aleksandr Petryayev and Aleksey Danilov. Year after year the inheritors of their combat glory have achieved high results in combat and political training and in strengthening military discipline.

The collective lives a full intellectual life. Socialist competition is conducted in a purposeful manner, and time is also found for interesting activities in a technical study group, for heated debate, and for political quizzes. Here a person feels comprehensive indoctrinational influence. This is always the case when the company is a genuine center of ideological-indoctrinational work.

We know that the battery occupies a very important place in the vast, intricate army organism. These are its primary cells, the life and activities of which determine in the final analysis the level of combat and political training, the state of military discipline in the unit and combined unit, and their combat readiness. The subunit contains the most favorable conditions for ideological-political, moral and psychological training of military personnel, for satisfying their diversified spiritual and intellectual needs. It is precisely here that individual indoctrinational work is conducted on a daily basis, and political instruction and information classes,

discussions, specific-topic evenings and other measures are organized and conducted. The company collective draws people vigorously into volunteer activities.

When the discussion is on what ensures a company solid and continuing success in combat and political training, the commanders of leading subunits always note the activeness of party organizations and their positive influence on all aspects of personnel daily life and service.

Company party organizations are numerically small. Communists -- the most politically mature and respected individuals -- are always working with the soldier masses and are well-acquainted with the individual features of each enlisted man, NCO, warrant officer, and officer. All this enables them to exert profound influence on the subunit and on its personnel.

Vigorous influence by the party organization is also clearly in evidence in the company under the command of Sr Lt G. Lisovskiy, which was discussed above, as well as in other subunits. One can even say in all of them because, in view of the importance of the question, the political section began working more concretely on development of the network of company and company-equivalent party organizations and has now succeeded in establishing them in all companies and batteries. Three years ago there were slightly more than half as many.

The establishment and organizational strengthening of company party organizations was persistently and consistently implemented by means of thoughtful placement of Communists in the subunits, including officer-Communists arriving from service schools, and warrant officers. This was also accomplished by means of systematic individual selection for CPSU membership of the most active, leading officers, warrant officers, NCOs and enlisted personnel.

The majority of companies and batteries here now contain party members among enlisted and NCO personnel. They exert great influence on the men in the absence of officers and ensure observance of proper procedures in the subunit and correct relations among military personnel.

Fostering high-quality performance of training schedules, company Communists conduct weapon and technical study groups, give individual assistance to lagging personnel, help the men improve their proficiency ratings, conduct technical conferences and quiz games, question-answer evenings, take part in organizing various measures of an indoctrinational character, and are pioneers in all excellent initiatives.

In short, strengthening of party influence is one of the most important conditions for improving the ideological level, quality and effectiveness of the entire indoctrinational process in the company.

The company becomes a center of political-indoctrination work when Komsomol activities in the company are also vigorous, when Komsomol members operate

an extensive program of interesting, exciting measures which capture the imagination of young people, with the assistance of the commanding officer, his deputy commander for political affairs, and all Communists. It is very important for the company Komsomol organization to have its own countenance, for it not to copy mechanically work forms which are uncharacteristic of it, but to organize genuinely original, emotionally expressive youth activities. It is important that commanders, political workers and party organizations assist Komsomol members precisely in this area.

As we know, the company contains a large group of activists. They include agitators, members of the Lenin Room Council, wall newspaper activists, and sports activists. If they are all involved in aggressive, innovative work, if not a single area is neglected, then and only then does the company contain genuine, full intellectual and spiritual life. Its organization is a great skill, and this skill must be persistently learned.

In my opinion the problem of learning practical ideological-indoctrination work at the company level currently merits particular attention. The specific features of the comprehensive approach demand up-to-date concepts on the wealth of forms and methods, their optimal utilization, and dictate the specific method of directing the indoctrination process.

I believe it is a good thing when young subunit commanders are purposefully assisted by staff and directorate officers. Many places have established the practice of appointing to each company and battery a volunteer propagandist, one of the most well-prepared senior officers. But his functions are not confined within a narrow frame. A volunteer propagandist is an experienced teacher; he enriches the company officers with concrete methods of indoctrinational work with personnel.

In Lt N. Kondratenko's company things were not going anywhere near as well as could have been expected of a well-trained officer familiar with the equipment. Studying Kondratenko's character and his practical work with his men for an extended period of time, staff officer Maj N. Rodionov established that the subunit commander was not quite correctly building his relationship with his men. He boiled down all influence on his men basically to general instructions prior to formation, while he frequently ended individual conversations with stern admonitions, and sometimes severe rebukes.

Lieutenant Kondratenko took Major Rodionov's friendly criticism in the right way and drew the necessary conclusions from it. The senior officer helped the company commander mend his ways and taught him to rely on the party and Komsomol organizations. Things in the company began to improve considerably.

The subunit first sergeants play an important and responsible role. One can scarcely exaggerate their contribution toward training and indoctrination of the men and toward maintaining order and discipline. Therefore considerably greater attention is focused on proper selection of candidates for these positions and filling them with the best, most experienced party-member warrant officers.

The noncommissioned officer is the closest indoctrinator of the enlisted man. They are constantly in contact. One can state that the young soldier receives from his sergeant his first impression of military service and the first example of attitude toward military duty, his first ideas about relationships within the army collective, on the countenance of the serviceman, his efficiency, level of culture, and many other things. It is no exaggeration to state that NCOs are the first link with which the unified chain of indoctrination begins. Therefore it is very important that party organizations do not ignore the problem of indoctrination of the indoctrinators -- the NCOs, teaching them not simply to "command" but also to influence their subordinates pedagogically, to reveal to the NCOs not only the military but also the moral significance of their relationships with their subordinates and their daily activities in the military collective. A good job is being done in this respect, for example, in Capt V. Shchekotov's company. He demands that the officers in his company patiently teach the NCOs and, together with the party members, constantly enriches their practical indoctrination experience and know-how.

Finally, the company is not an entity to itself. It is a component of the regimental family. The men take part in indoctrination measures conducted on the scale of the battalion and unit. It is very important that the mechanism of interaction of company, battalion and regimental measures be precisely coordinated -- this too is one of the demands of the comprehensive approach. In practice one frequently observes that there is no time left for "local work," for a company debate, a platoon poetry evening, or for a Komsomol morning activity. And the volunteer propagandists frequently prefer the regimental rostrum and are rarely seen in the barracks. And yet an appearance directly in the subunit, we should note, places its mark on the style of the speech as well -- it cannot help but be closer to real life, more emotional and alive.

It would also evidently make sense to consider the following question: does the unit contain, figuratively speaking, "a model of ideological-indoctrination work in the company?" This is not an idle question. I once asked a young commanding officer why there had not been a single debate held in the company in the past 2 years on the subject of morality? This is a favorite topic with young people, and a lively discussion on the subject is very effective. He wavered, and then replied: "But where does it say that you have to have debates?" Quite a bit could be said about this. We must have a clear idea of what we want the company to be from the standpoint of quantity of measures and events, variety, coordination between company and regimental activities, etc.

These days there is of course another task: we must set up things in the company so that there is a continuous propaganda effort and detailed study with the men of the draft new USSR Constitution, with a lively discussion of this most important document of the present day, so that company measures will be skillfully combined with higher-level activities, ensuring that they are linked with the entire indoctrination process.

Of course in a single article one can scarcely discuss all matters pertaining to such an important subject. Its successful resolution contains considerable reserve potential for increasing the effectiveness of indoctrination, raising the level of combat and political training of subunits and units, strengthening military discipline, and achieving high results in socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

3024

CSO: 1801

YOUTH INDOCTRINATION TELEVISION SERIES PRAISED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jun 77 p 4

[Article by Army Gen P. Kurochkin: "Popular Exploit on the Television Screen"]

[Text] Each year of the 60-year biography of our country is memorable and dear in its own way. They all have gone down in the history of the world's first socialist state with the unfading pages of the labor and struggle of the Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party which is creating a new society. But, glancing into the past and in evaluating what has been done and endured, you see a special period in the life of October's Motherland-- the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 against fascist Germany. Much depended on the outcome of this war. "Not only the fate of our people and the future of our fatherland, but the fates of dozens of countries and hundreds of millions of people in various states--this was the stake then," said L. I. Brezhnev. "And no one is allowed and no one will be allowed to forget that for their very existence and for their freedom the people of our time are obliged in tremendous measure to the heroic Soviet people, the Soviet state, and the great socialist system!"

It is with great excitement that you look at the programs created for the youth by the main editorial staff of the Central Television, the cycle "Our Biography," in which an important place was occupied by the narration of the severe and heroic war years. And although much has been said and written about the war, the motion picture chronicle of those years which forms the basis of the broadcasts and gave a memorable description of a time of unprecedented heroism and the highest spiritual upsurge of the Soviet people forces one to relive the past again and to feel once more the majesty of what occurred.

The creators of the television film faced a difficult task--to choose the most important and the most valuable from that tremendous archive and documentary material which was left by the Great Patriotic War. Surely, there is no point in reproaching the authors of the television epopee because they could not tell about all the battles and engagements, about everything that was done in the rear--such a task simply proved to be beyond their capabilities. I believe that they succeeded in the main thing: to transmit the spirit of those heroic years and the meaning and goal of the struggle of tens of millions of Soviet

people whom their righteous cause united and rallied and made invincible in the fierce, uncompromising battle with a strong and treacherous enemy. The words of V. I. Lenin were truly prophetic when he said that the people in which the majority of the peasants and workers learned, felt, and saw that they are defending their Soviet power will never be vanquished. We see on the television screen in a large layout an entire generation which was brought up by the party, which carried on its shoulders the main burden of World War II, and at a cost of the greatest selflessness and tremendous sacrifices overthrew Hitlerite fascism which tried to subjugate the entire world.

The frames of the motion picture chronicle of our army's war years, which often were taken from the frontline newsreels completely and directly with the announcer's text, are impressive. These frames are graphic evidence that the Soviet Armed Forces which were created by the party and the people for the defense of the achievements of October withstood all tests with honor, that the Soviet fighting men displayed unprecedented mass heroism, and that Soviet military science and military art proved their superiority over the aggressor's military art.

The photo documents are viewed with just as much interest. A military photo and a war hero telling about it today. Who can remain indifferent, for example to the story of the deputy political instructor, Aleksandr Fedorovich Serov, who was considered dead? On the first day of the war, the battery in which Serov alone remained by the end of the battle destroyed 18 fascist tanks. Being seriously wounded, Aleksandr Fedorovich continued to strike down the enemy with artillery fire. And there he is before us, one of those whose exploit became known only after many years. Hearing his story, millions of television viewers understand more clearly why at first the "invincible" Hitlerite war machine skidded, then began to roll backward, and at last finally fell to pieces. Sounding like a report of the execution of their duty to the end before the Motherland, the people, and the party are the voices from the television screen of those who, in 1941, covered Moscow with their breasts, smashed the enemy at Stalingrad in 1942, struggled in the Kursk salient in 1943, carried liberation to the countries of Europe in 1944, and wrote their names on the walls of the downfallen Reichstag and accepted the surrender of the Japanese army in 1945.

Of course, not everything in the television films is of equal value: some things turned out better, others worse, but the main hero did not disappear from the screen--the Soviet people, the Soviet fighting man who accomplished his sacred mission before the succeeding generations and history. As a virtue of the television film we should also note the fact that its creators tried to show the war in all its spheres and had a good word about the workers in the Soviet rear--the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the intellectuals without whose great selflessness and heroism it would have been impossible to conquer the experienced aggressor who was armed to the teeth. There are frames of Soviet partisans and underground fighters whose struggle became a symbol of the truly popular character of the Great Patriotic War and a second front in the rear of the Wehrmacht.

We know that victory in the war would have been impossible without the collective genius and titanic activity of the Communist Party which united the country and all the people of the USSR into a single combat camp. The frames in the television film which tell about the work of the State Defense Committee, the Headquarters, Supreme High Command, and other organs which were led by the Politburo of the Central Committee, All-Union Communist Party (of bolsheviks) headed by J. V. Stalin give integrity to the multiplane picture of the nationwide struggle with the fascist aggressor.

According to the concept of its creators, the television story, "Our Biography," is directed primarily toward the young viewer, which was manifested in the composite structure and nature of the television film on the war. However, people of the middle and older generations, veterans of the war and labor, sit down at the television screen with just as much interest. It is not by chance that among the comments which arrived concerning the broadcast there are the following: "When I view the films of this series, I again experience that time and, evidently, millions of Soviet people who lived then and those for whom this time is history experience it with me," writes N. M. Yegorova from Leningrad. "A special impression is formed by the story about the years of the Great Patriotic War in which I also was a participant. And when I saw the Victory Parade, it seemed to me that it was I and my friends who are marching across Red Square...."

Coworkers of the Military History Institute of the Ministry of Defense USSR took a direct part in the creation of the television story about the years of the Great Patriotic War; this permitted a more truthful, historically accurate reflection of one of the most heroic pages in the life of our country. The television epopee, "Our Biography," is continuing and we hope that in the new films we will see many times the men of the contemporary Armed Forces--the heroic guardians of peace on Earth. A peace which was attained with the blood of their grandfathers and fathers.

6367

CSO: 1801

VETERANS COMPLAIN OF UNCEREMONIOUS TREATMENT

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jun 77 p 4

[Letter to editor and reply]

[Text] One day about 70 men who, because of age, were to be dropped from the military roster or retired, arrived in the Lebedinskiy rayon military commissariat of Sumskaya oblast. Frankly speaking, we expected warm words from the personnel of the military commissariat and good wishes addressed to those who had served in the army for many years or had defended the Motherland at the front. But what happened?

Major I. Savchenko entered the appropriate marks in the service records and then placed them on a table in the corridor of the military commissariat and announced that we can pick them up and depart.

Active participants in the Great Patriotic War, a former tank driver-mechanic and now the best bus driver in the Lebedinskiy vehicle fleet, Senior Sergeant (Reserve) V. Gubskiy, a mechanic of the same enterprise, Private (Reserve) S. Krymets, a teacher in the vehicle school, Sergeant (Reserve) I. Dudnik, and many others left the military commissariat with resentment after being dropped from the roster. I, as chairman of the assistance committee with the rayon military commissariat, felt especially awkward. We proposed to the personnel of the military commissariat several times that such measures be conducted ceremoniously but, unfortunately, they did not listen to our opinion.

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) K. Dudchenko

From the editors. The editors requested the chief of the political department of the Sumskaya oblast military commissariat, Colonel I. Chekmez, to comment on the veteran's letter.

"The facts indicated in the letter of Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) K. Dudchenko were completely confirmed. At a meeting of the party activists, the attention of the personnel of the oblast's military commissariat was directed toward the impermissibility of such cases and the party organization of the Lebedinskiy rayon military commissariat was sharply criticized.

"We assure the editors of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA that henceforth there will be no such outrageous cases in the military commissariat of Sumskaya oblast. We understand the resentment of Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Dudchenko and other veterans and we convey to them our sincere apologies."

6367

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HOUSING DIFFICULTIES TRACED TO FAVORITISM

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Jun 77 p 4

[Article by Lt Col of Justice I. Vashkevich: "3:0 in Favor of Favoritism"]

[Text] Those who live on small posts, let us say somewhere in Siberia, usually get by without the services of transportation agencies with an improvement in housing conditions. Preventive service has not yet penetrated everywhere. And really, why do we need transportation if we are speaking, for example, about a young family. A lieutenant picks up his suitcase and, accompanied by his wife, he marches to more spacious and comfortable quarters. Here, we note the necessity to inform friends and acquaintances about a housewarming disappears. So everyone sees: people move and someone already joins the march with a cumbersome torchère as a gift for the new settlers.

But how hard it is for the same lieutenant with the same suitcases to make the same path through the post in the opposite direction. If at the threshold of the desired quarters they suddenly announce to him that they were in a hurry, they say, the quarters are not yet free. It is shameful for a person, as if he coveted something that was not his. And what shall we do with the torchère?

"But why isn't it free?" the lieutenant asks.

"Because," replies the chief of the remote Siberian garrison, "Senior Lieutenant Gromov who has left us for the Moscow area cannot yet occupy the quarters of Captain Sergeyev there."

"And why is Sergeyev slow?"

"Well, he cannot settle in the quarters occupied by Colonel (Reserve) Panteleyev, an honored person, who until recently was the rayon military commissar. Upon release to the reserve he, it is true, decided not to remain in the rayon center but, for the present, new housing was not been obtained and you can't throw a veteran into the street!"

The diagram of the line which has bogged down is being cleared up. The reason for the jam is seen in the lack of administrative abilities of the local

authorities who do not grant authorized living space to a deserving person. And the lieutenant is ready to set off on a trip of thousands of kilometers in order to restore fairness and, at the same time, to move the ill-starred line off dead center. And only urgent official matters restrain him from such a deed.

An action, let us say directly, which is rash. For in a Moscow garrison a Siberian would discover things which are truly amazing. According to the documents which are available to the garrison housing commission temporarily headed by Captain G. Kolesnikov, there was absolutely nothing wrong in the forward movement of the line. According to the documents, back in October of last year Senior Lieutenant Yu. Gromov happily occupied the quarters of Captain Sergeyev, the latter--the housing of Colonel (Reserve) I. Panteleyev, while the colonel departed in two directions simultaneously: to a one-room apartment of his own garrison and also to the living space of his daughter in the Moscow suburb of Khimki.

Does it turn out that everything is in order? Yes, it does. However, nevertheless, where can the mentioned torchère be plugged in? For even by the May holidays neither Senior Lieutenant Gromov nor Captain Sergeyev ever celebrated a housewarming! And what about the strange split personality which was developed by Ivan Ivanovich Panteleyev who seemed to depart for Khimki and, at the same time, remained in his own garrison?

But in fact, there was no splitting, either. There was...a "triple" personality. For from last October through this May Ivan Ivanovich and his wife occupied no more and no less than--three apartments! Both those to which he moved in accordance with the documents and the one which he allegedly freed for Captain Sergeyev. Let us add to this that this March the Khimkinskiy ispolkom considered "crowded housing conditions" of the Panteleyevs in their daughter's apartment and granted them a separate two-room apartment in a new house. After which, already in May, Ivan Ivanovich actually transferred the key from the quarters which were occupied in the garrison along Kirov Street to Captain Sergeyev which, finally, moved the line which had been stuck. However, even to this day an apartment remains for him on Gagarin Street which was registered, it is true, to an officer who departed from there long ago.

In general, we can reassure the lieutenant from the distant Siberian post: even without his interference the family of the former rayon military commissar was quite well set up with housing. And one could only be happy with the attention with which the colonel of the reserve was surrounded if only.... Well yes, the torchère which was left for the winter at the threshold of the inhospitable apartments! That is, if attention had been devoted to Comrade Panteleyev not to the detriment of the interests of other people and not to get around housing legislation.

For it is not prescribed in vain: turn in your housing at your place of service and only then receive new housing. Circumstances require this. Isn't it a joke, even in Siberia the echo of the apartment combination in the Moscow area was

answered! Really, in the N-th garrison of the Moscow Military District there are many officers and warrant officers [praporshchik] as well as reserve and retired officers who are patiently waiting for precious meters and live in private quarters. And with such circumstances a person who is registered in Khimki keeps space which was "turned in" for seven months and even adds a one-room apartment to it. Envidable, isn't it, the comfort which, however, in no way squares with our impressions about devotion to principle and modesty.

The chief of the Moscow garrison and the acting chairman of the housing commission explained to me for a rather long time the motives of such uncommon squandering of available housing. True, the former laid more stress on the "theory of the question." The housing situation has now eased, he says, and a one-room apartment does not have decisive significance. Let the wife of Ivan Ivanovich stay there in order to not leave the city and not to interrupt her labor longevity which is necessary for the awarding of a pension. And the apartment on Kirov Street--this is only a "tribute of respect for the services of Ivan Ivanovich."

Yes, the chief of the garrison was inclined to speak of the matter exclusively in general outlines. As, by the way, about certain special "services" of the former rayon military commissar.

In return, the acting chairman of the housing commission tried to appear as an efficient practical worker. The captain continuously slammed the doors of the safe and plunged into a pile of papers from which, however, it was learned that the book of the minutes of the housing commission's sessions stopped suddenly with an incomplete page about a meeting...in July 1976, that there is no plan for the distribution of living space which has been received, that the record cards of the apartments are not filled out, and that Captain Kolesnikov himself does not know how many apartments there are in the garrison.

In short, the accounting and distribution of housing in the garrison show a situation of irresponsibility, confusion, and amicable relations in which the line for the improvement of the housing conditions of the servicemen was tied up for more than half a year. And this situation was reflected not only in the attitude of the people here and in far-away Siberia. Someone also postponed a housewarming in Khimki since the gorispolkom considered a "fake" report No 372 of 22 October 1976 to the effect that "Colonel I. I. Panteleyev has turned in a two-room apartment which he occupied on Kirov Street."

And what about Ivan Ivanovich himself, colonel of the reserve, communist? Alas, due to the abundance of addresses we did not have the occasion to meet him. True, a telephone conversation took place.

"I did so much for the garrison," it was heard in the receiver, "that I have the right to comfortable housing."

But you see, no one is disputing this right. Just let the former rayon military commissar look in the eye those reserve and retired officers to whom he explained quite recently on the strength of his official duties:

"The housing situation is difficult. You have to wait. That's the procedure,"
and he mentioned modesty.

Or doesn't this procedure concern him?

6367

CSO: 1801

ASSAULT HELICOPTERS IN ANTITANK FIRING EXERCISE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jun 77 p 1

[Article by Lt Col L. Chuyko, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "Tanks in the Sight"]

[Text] Four assault helicopters swiftly shoot out from behind a projection of a forest and immediately appear over a canal with a bridge thrown across it. It is our pivoting point and point of departure for the attack.

The operator of the leading helicopter, Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Sokolov, pressing against the rubber tube of the sight, is already looking for the target.

"Turn!" commands Captain Vladimir Kostyna, the flight leader.

He cast a glance in the direction of the wingmen's "echelon." All were in their places, as if dug in. And this is one of the decisive conditions for the attack to be successful.

Kostyna energetically banks the helicopter to the left and literally here he levels off. Behind him--the wingmen. They operate in a coordinated manner, clearly. Because they tried well while still on the ground: the flight route was determined so that the helicopters are now coming out on their combat course without excessive swaying. For in the attack, all attention is on the targets!

Several kilometers from us as we go into the attack, "enemy" tanks prepared for a counterattack behind the forest in a broad meadow which was overgrown with brush. Therefore, the helicopters were urgently called on to support the motorized riflemen in the attack.

I have no optical instruments and do not see the tanks yet. But I clearly imagine how the barrels of their machineguns would now begin to move as they aim at the helicopters. My uncle, Captain Anton Sukhoryabov, died in the Great Patriotic War in the battles for Krivoy Rog. He commanded a battery of 45's

and fought tanks only by direct fire. He had many glorious duels to his credit both before and after Stalingrad. But the one on the edge of the city nevertheless became his last one. The enemy fired first....

The legendary IL's--the winged low-flying attack aircraft--also fought enemy tanks well. The contemporary airplanes of the battlefield--the fighter-bombers--inherited much from them. And now these machines are also being effectively employed--rotary-wing, camouflaged against the sky and the ground.

Assault helicopters are a formidable weapon. As the experience of exercises shows, they have great force. Let the tanks aim their machineguns. We will strike first, from afar. The crews have everything for this--rocket projectiles and the most precise sighting equipment. And what is more, combat ability acquired in strained drills and in the course of socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of the Great October.

Clinging to the sight tube, Sokolov assiduously looks for the "enemy." The tanks, understandably, merge with the terrain and are camouflaged. But the powerful lenses do their work and the operator soon discovers the targets in the green bushes.

Yes, it is not easy to take aim when you are not on firm ground, and in the air currents it is not simple to hold the helicopter on a straight line as it rushes into the attack. But Captain V. Kostyna, knowing this well, "calms" the machine quickly and skillfully.

"Attack!" he commands the wingmen.

...This is not their first such attack. Today visibility is excellent and the sun is shining at their backs. Or else, you see, it often happens that it blinds the crew or the battlefield is covered with heavy smoke. It seems that only by a miracle can the mission be accomplished under such conditions. But they accomplished it. Without any miracle there. Thanks to their brilliant ability.

Each time that I visit the helicopter men on flights I see a trainer. While the rocket launchers are being loaded, the operators train in aiming. For the ATGM [antitank guided missile] flies to the target in essence in an instant. This also means that the skills in working with the equipment and coordination in actions must be precise and errorless.

And today, on the eve of the sortie, Sokolov and his subordinates were working on the trainer--young flight operators Lieutenants V. Kuznetsov, A. Akimenko, and Yu. Tolstykh. Captain Kostyna was interested:

"How's the drill?"

"Within the norm," Sokolov reported.

"Don't forget about the rosin," the commander reminded him.

This advice is relevant. From the personal experience of the commander and his operator. Yes, of course the finger must not inadvertently slip from the firing button for control of the armament. Even if excitement seizes you on the combat course or if buffeting becomes interference. Nothing must hinder a timely strike. This is a law which the aviators firmly know.

They had no disruptions. The young officers are trained aerial warriors. For example, take Kostyna and Sokolov. Both are from Yaroslavl'. And before they selected service in combat aviation as their life's work they worked in a motor plant and studied in a DOSAAF aviation sports club. Sokolov, for example, having finished the technical school, had already comprehended in practice the difficult matter of quenching alloys which are necessary for powerful engines. And he himself found his firmness of character in the worker collective.

And really, despite their youth, the other officers of the flight do not have to undertake flight schooling. The advanced pilots' school, judging from commanders' comments, provides its graduates with virtually everything which is required for their rapid combat maturity.

This was confirmed once again by a command inspection team which checked the helicopter men. It so happened that its selection fell on the flight of Captain Kostyna who, in the course of an exercise, it ordered to launch a strike against an "enemy" strong point. And the aviators accomplished the mission excellently, showing good tactical training and firing skill.

I also had the occasion to be convinced of this now, during the several seconds of the attack--swift, crushing. And in the launching of the ATGM's fired by the aviators of the crew, one felt their high skill. It seemed as though the shell rushed toward the tank along a rigid, straight chute rather than through the air....

The helicopters energetically turned to the return course. A minute later Sokolov leaned back against the back of the seat. The trace from the sight tube could still be seen as a brown square on his excited face which was covered with sweat. He winked mischievously. And the commander raised his thumb in response.

"Captain V. Kostyna's crew destroyed the tank with a falcon-like strike! The remaining sections of the flight also fired excellently.

"Comrade aviators, take as your example the right guides of the jubilee competition!"

This is from a printed newsflash. The extract was made after the flight.

6367

CSO: 1801

MISSILE FIRING BATTERY INSPECTION REVEALS SHORTCOMINGS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 77 p 1

[Article by Engr-Col V. Rozov: "The Lessons of One Check"]

[Text] A check of a launch battery commanded by Captain B. Dzhelilev was taking place. The commission adjudged the condition of the armament and combat equipment satisfactory. The launcher men could not claim a higher grade. The fact is that the inspectors discovered a number of shortcomings and omissions. True, it was not so difficult to eliminate them and little time was required for this. But why was it necessary to wait for the arrival of the commission? For Captain Dzhelilev himself could have noted the shortcomings. The members of the commission asked the battery commander with what frequency he checks the condition of the combat equipment and armament. Bewilderment was reflected in the captain's face: it says, about what check are we speaking? The armament is checked by specialists of the appropriate services and the technical subunit, and they know best. "And why should I inspect the same transporter-loader?" the captain reasoned. "I see it every day...."

We remind Captain Dzhelilev that the Interior Service Regulations require the battery commander to check the condition of the weapons and combat and other equipment at least once a month and to adopt measures to eliminate shortcomings which have been discovered. The captain refers to certain specific features of the battery and to a shortage of time. But it is believed that the matter is something else: poor knowledge of the duties set forth by the regulations and a lack of clear planning of his work.

It would be unfair, however, to blame Captain Dzhelilev alone for all the shortcomings discovered in the maintenance of the equipment and in organizing its servicing. The condition of some equipment of the launch battery depends to a great extent on the quality of the work accomplished by the specialists of the technical subunit. They, by the way, have been assigned duties both for the checking of this armament and for rendering assistance in the organization and conduct of prescribed work.

A group of specialists headed by officer V. Ozhagin visited the battery commanded by Captain Dzhelilov not long before the check. They accomplished a

large volume of work and drew up the appropriate documents. But it's a strange matter: Comrade Ozhogin was not interested in whether Captain Dzhelilev conducts monthly checks of the equipment's condition.

What turned out in practice? The battery commander, knowing the the specialists will come to him, will check everything, and will eliminate malfunctions, simply speaking, became accustomed to parasitism.

Well, and what is the position of the specialists of the unit staff? How do they evaluate the state of affairs in the subunit? We talk with Engineer-Major R. Gol'din. It is learned that he is well informed about the shortcomings which are present in the subunit. Then why wouldn't he remind the battery specialists of their duties and conduct, let us say, a demonstration lesson? "It was not planned," the engineer-major answers unambiguously.

For the sake of fairness, let us note that the staff specialists regularly visit the subunit and help to eliminate shortcomings and bottlenecks. But they do not delve into the following question: and how do the responsible officials of the battery accomplish their functional duties? It happens that the staff officers simply substitute for the specialists on the spot. We were graphically convinced of this. In checking the quality of accomplishment of prescribed work, the members of the commission came up against a number of malfunctions. Staff representative officer V. Aver'yanov was personally engaged in their elimination and coped with the problem brilliantly. However, what can be said in this connection? Irreproachable knowledge of the complex does honor to Aver'yanov as a specialist. But it would have been much more useful both for he himself and for the service if he had observed and evaluated the work of the specialists in accordance with a special situation and had drawn the necessary conclusions.

But, is it possible that the fact which we observed is simple chance? Analysis shows that other staff officers also often replace the specialists in the subunit and take over the accomplishment of their duties instead of checking and teaching people. And to what does this lead? To a parasitic attitude on the part of the subunit commander.

Such shortcomings are explained to a great extent by the fact that the deputy unit commander for armament, Engineer-Major N. Nesevra is a new person in the unit who was assigned to the post not so long ago. Now he is undertaking energetic measures to eliminate the shortcomings which have been discovered but, naturally, he himself needs help in mastering his functional duties.

These are the conclusion which we reached after this check. Of course, the commission made a detailed critique of the shortcomings which had been disclosed, expressed its recommendations, and helped to correct the state of affairs on the spot.

However, it should be noted that we also encounter such shortcomings during checks in other subunits. Sometimes the officers of the corresponding services declare in justifying themselves: "We render assistance...." But assistance differs. Replacing juniors by seniors can never ensure the stability of high indices. This should always be remembered.

6367

CSO: 1801

EFFECTIVENESS OF AIR FORCE POLITICAL OFFICERS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen Avn N. Tsymbal, first deputy chief of the Air Force Political Directorate: "After the Commission's Departure: The Work Style of Political Bodies"]

[Text] In his report to the 25th party congress, comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, especially pointed out the immense significance of the activities of republic, kray, oblast, district, city and rayon party organizations. While rating their great services highly, the congress delineated a clear-cut action program for these important party links in further improving party management of the economy, political-organizational and ideological-educational work with the masses and in further improving the execution of party policy in provincial organizations.

These directions of the CPSU Congress have a direct relationship to the activity of our political bodies. Together with commanders and staffs, they are called upon to steadfastly and purposefully conduct work on the implementation of the 25th party congress decisions, to strive for a skillful utilization of all capabilities for further improving communist education, combat and political training of personnel, strengthening military discipline and increasing personnel vigilance and subunit and unit combat readiness.

Each political body's arsenal has many effective forms and methods which have proven themselves in practice and which enable the successful accomplishment of these missions. One of these forms is direct work by the political body and its representatives in the unit and in the local party organizations.

Today there is not one political body which does not plan unit visits for its representatives and which does not foresee work in local or even in squadron party organizations. And this is

understandable. When you purposefully become acquainted with the state of affairs on the spot, meet and talk with the people during flights and in training classes, then you will understand their attitudes, needs and interests better. And this permits the most efficient organization of party political work in the areas of combat training, insuring a practical reinforcement of party influence on flight training and insuring a healthy moral climate in the military collective.

The personnel of the Group of Soviet Forces, Germany Aviation Political Section proceed precisely on this premise when planning unit visits. Here is just one example. A group of officers headed by Maj Gen Avn V. Kuzovov worked for eight days in one of the units. The unit was not selected by accident. The aviators here were equipped with modern combat fighter aircraft and some of them, especially the younger pilots, were not mastering them smoothly. Some people fell behind in the training program. On their way to the unit, the political personnel set this goal for themselves: to study how the party committee and the staff and squadron party organizations are insuring the leading role of communists in the mastery of combat equipment, to help in the organization of military technical propaganda and in summarizing the advanced experience of first class pilots.

Major General of Aviation Kuzovov and political section officers thoroughly acquainted themselves with the work of the regimental commander, his deputies and party and Komsomol organizations. Everything positive and valuable was noted, summarized and passed on to all unit personnel.

The political personnel helped organize lessons in the technical societies and helped revitalize the work of the military technical knowledge propagandist section; they suggested ways to better popularize the experience of advanced pilots, engineers, technicians and young aircraft specialists. They gave advice and recommendations to commanders and political personnel on the problems of stimulating morale in the competition for the title of best specialists. They presented lectures and reports to personnel themselves.

At the same time, the political section officers did not overlook shortcomings. Specifically, it was pointed out to the party committee that they were not always reacting to cases of poor preparation of isolated communist-officers in conducting equipment studies. From time to time, party control of flight preparations amounts to simply organizing the aviators' rest and meals. Of course, this is important, but the theoretical studies of aviators and other issues have slipped from the activists' view.

The work results of the officers of the political section were discussed at an enlarged session of the party committee and they were studied with leadership personnel.

After finishing work in the unit, the political section then maintained a constant interest in the fulfillment of its recommendations. Two months later the officers again visited the unit. They were convinced that their conclusions and suggestions left a good mark on the aviators' work. And also that, overall, personnel were finishing the first phase of training with good ratings and that this year they will fly without accidents and grounds for them; it is a great credit to the political section that the aviators successfully fulfilled the Air Force commander in chief's requirements for increasing flight, firing, tactical and technical engineering training.

It would be possible to cite many similar examples. However, speaking frankly, unit visits by political body personnel are not yielding such results everywhere yet; when using this tried form of work, some comrades treat it bureaucratically. They travel on the principle: we haven't been there for a long time; we must go. But why, for what purpose--they don't think deeply about this. And the notations "accomplished" show up in some of the plans. Meanwhile, the state of affairs in those units visited by the authoritative commission of the political body frequently remains just as it was.

Isolated political bodies plan simultaneous visits of several groups to different units and attempt to immediately study a large number of problems. Here and there they don't prepare ahead of time for unit visits. They assemble--and off they go. And what a specific worker will study is only decided on the spot, and then in general terms. The rate of helpful work in such activity is not high.

While working in the units, some comrades are not able to renounce the position of monitor or inspector. Such a person is only capable of gathering facts for a report to the chief; neither the regimental political worker nor the party activist need expect any help from him. On the style of work of these comrades, they say in the units: "Control is on the spot; help comes in the order."

The work results of officers of higher political bodies are not always written up in the appropriate manner. And if these results are not summarized, then how is it possible: to discuss them on the spot, to bring recommendations to the attention of executors, to follow-up on their accomplishment?

All of this frequently engenders empty visits. Time and again officers of the Moscow Military District Aviation Political Section have visited the aviation training regiment at Borisoglebskiy Aviation Institute. And each time they pointed out the very same shortcomings in the activities of the subunit's party committee and party and Komsomol organizations. Specifically, while working in the regiment shortly before the reports-and-elections campaign, the political section officers directed attention to the fact that the party organization was striving weakly to educate communists in the spirit of personal responsibility for fulfilling combat and political training plans. And to the fact that the party committee was essentially staying aloof from this work and senior comrades did not see it. Somewhat later, at the regimental reports-and-election meeting, the communists elected Capt G. Iosifov as the party committee secretary.

A serious sign. However, even after this, the district aviation political section did not investigate the condition of party political work in the regiment and did not take concrete measures for its radical improvement. As a result--as a recent visit to the institute by officers from the AF Political Directorate confirmed--many of the shortcomings inherent in the previous party committee continue to take place even now. It was necessary to point this out to both the district aviation political section and the institute's political section and together with them make up for the deficiencies in party political work in the unit.

Or here is another example. Until recently--according to the reports of one of the political bodies--the party political staff of unit X had a reputation as one of the advanced staffs. How did the comrades earn such a rating? It appears by work planning. Indeed, planning here is, as they say, up to date. The officers of our political directorate, who recently visited unit X, were convinced of this. In all, there are over 200 events per month in the plans which were compiled by the subunit's deputy commander for political affairs, the party committee and party and Komsomol organizations. The question arises of whether such a volume of work is within the power of a regimental team? How is it possible to insure the quality and effectiveness of such an abundance of events?

This question also suggests itself: how did the political section personnel--who had visited the unit more than once--not notice that all these plans were an obvious example of formalism? The answer to this question is simple: the political section officers nominally checked the work of the party activists on the spot and judged it not by its work, but by paperwork.

The work in units and subunits by officers of political bodies is a very important, responsible part of their activities. This is the best method of checking on the fulfillment of adopted decisions, of training, of advising activists on the spot, of summarizing and disseminating advanced experience and of eliminating shortcomings in the organization of party political work. Therefore, it is necessary to prepare thoroughly for each unit visit. How will your stay benefit the people in the regiment, in the squadron? What effect will it have? What effect will it have on the affairs of the military collective? These questions must constantly concern each worker of the political body.

Air Force personnel have entered a crucial stage in improving their training. Strenuous military labor is in full swing at airfields and in training classes. The significant date draws closer and closer--the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Inspired by the decisions of the May 1977 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the soldier-aviators are steadfastly striving to welcome the glorious jubilee of Soviet power with new successes in training and service.

Commanders, political bodies and party and Komsomol organizations are directing the creative enthusiasm of all personnel toward the successful accomplishment of the missions set for the Air Force by the USSR Ministry of Defense.

The patriotic movement for advanced unit is spreading everywhere. While studying and discussing the new USSR Draft Constitution with profound interest and in answer to the party's concern for the Soviet Armed Forces and for the further development of the most advanced Soviet democracy in the world, personnel of AF large units, units and subunits are filled with resolution to excellently master the combat equipment and weapons entrusted to them by the people and to vigilantly and reliably defend the air borders of the Fatherland.

9001
CSO: 1801

COMMAND TRAINING OF YOUNG OFFICERS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Titarov, Group of Soviet Forces, Germany: "A Towering Responsibility--To be Exacting: Regulations are the Law of Military Life"]

[Text] Sr Lts N. Rybakov and V. Furzikov were assigned to positions as company commanders at the same time. Both made a good impression; both enjoyed a reputation in the regiment as hard working officers who possessed in-depth military knowledge. Till now, both had confidently commanded platoons.

Months passed. How did the senior lieutenants develop as company commanders? Far from equally. While Rybakov is praised and held up as an example at official meetings where the results of socialist competition are summed up, critical remarks are usually heard about Furzikov. Why does service turn out differently for young officers who possess equal capabilities?

We will not rush to an answer. Let's visit the barracks where the subunits are located. At first glance, there are no big differences here. This is natural: the commanders are guided by exactly the same regulations, the premises are supplied with standard furniture and the companies receive the same materials required for maintaining normal living conditions. But, on a closer inspection, you will certainly see that military order is stricter in the barracks where the personnel of the company commanded by Sr Lt Rybakov live. The routine garrison duty detail performs its work more efficiently here; it is cleaner and cosier; somehow the soldiers' and sergeants' uniforms appear fresher. The domestic order of the barracks sufficiently accurately reflects the style of both officers daily activities and the degree of their exactingness toward subordinates.

It is precisely the commanders' different degrees of exactingness which are the reason for the subunits' different results

in training competition and duties. The reader is probably wondering how this can be; it was stated above that both Rybakov and Furzikov successfully commanded platoons. It appears that they were both sufficiently exacting earlier. What has changed since then?

A company is a qualitatively new level of command duty. For the first time, officers are among the subordinates. For the first time, one has to direct the activities of not just the Komsomol, but also, as a rule, the party organization. At this stage, the commander's ability to be exacting--exacting not just with sergeants and soldiers but also with officers and warrant officers--is tried on an entirely different scale.

And Sr Lt Furzikov does not have this ability. However, it has only now become clear that when he was a platoon commander, he was not consistently exacting toward sergeants. He preferred to make up for their failures by his own efforts. This was successful on the scale of a platoon. But, in a company success is possible only when each officer and warrant officer conscientiously fulfills his functional responsibilities to the fullest extent. The responsibility for exacting this is placed on the company commander. To exact it authoritatively and persistently.

I was told about an episode which took place in the company commanded by Sr Lt Rybakov. One of the platoon commanders was late for the morning battalion formation. About three minutes. Incidentally, the officer was very conscientious and diligent; he explained his tardiness with a reason which could be considered valid at first glance. But, the company commander did not see it that way. After a discussion with the company's officers, he no longer thought it was valid and he recognized his guilt. There have been no similar cases in the company since that time.

The regulation for routine garrison duty directs that platoon commanders must periodically attend reveille and evening roll call. What is the advisable periodicity? For what reason must an officer arrive at the barracks before the work day begins or after it ends?

The officers subordinate to Sr Lt Rybakov will give a precise answer to these questions. If one of them is hurrying to reveille, then it is not in order to control the common procedure or to replace the sergeants. Each has a clearly defined goal: to show how to organize the morning calisthenics and inspection. Or to observe how one of the sergeants is leading his subordinates at that time, for example, one of the

recent graduates of the training subunit, to give him specific recommendations and to help with things.

A lower level of exactingness has developed in the company where Sr Lt Furzikov is the commander.

For example, I had occasion to investigate Sgt V. Kostrov who had permitted a violation of military discipline. How did the deputy platoon commander allow himself to deviate from the regulation's procedure? We had a frank conversation. The sergeant told me how he dreamed of becoming a reliable assistant to the officer and together with him raise the platoon to the level of the advanced in all areas. At first, he displayed maximum effort and keenly endured any failures. But...

"Once I was conducting the morning inspection," recalled Kostrov. "It was not possible to eliminate all the shortcomings by myself. I decided to report this to the platoon commander. But, Lt Naumov did not accept my report; he waved his hand: he says, not right now. Later there was a similar instance. And I began to feel that I was not up to it..."

Of course, the company commander's work style is reflected in Lt Naumov's actions. Furzikov himself went through the barracks on more than one occasion and did not notice particular shortcomings or thought them insignificant.

This style was also reflected in the conduct of Lt N. Sergeyev, another platoon commander in the same company. The young officer went to sleep at an unauthorized time while in charge of the guard. And, he "justified" himself this way: to make up for it, I stayed awake during the time allotted for sleep. Behind all this lurks the fallacious principle of neglecting the requirements of regulations.

Apparently, the question can be asked: why aren't senior comrades working with Furzikov; why aren't they helping the subunit? I will answer it: they are working and helping.

Only, it is impossible to make a truly exacting and strict commander of an officer with efforts just from the sidelines. A lot depends on the person himself, on his desire to develop and improve his will power. First of all, he must correctly understand the essence of command exactingness; he must learn to integrate it with sensitivity, benevolence and an ability to win subordinates over to him, to earn their respect.

Many of the errors in Sr Lt Furzikov's work are simply explained by a peculiar understanding of exactingness. He especially

doesn't want to "spoil" his relationship with subordinate officers. But, you know that a strict observation of the regulations helps most of all to make these relationships healthy and businesslike and at the same time warm and comradely. Relationships like those in the company where Sr Lt Rybakov is the commander have earned them the title of best company in the regiment.

To be exacting is a towering and difficult responsibility. To be exacting means to be in a state of constant mobilization oneself, to put the interests of combat readiness above everything else.

Life shows: where there is an exacting, principled commander, there is a higher quality of fulfillment of training plans and programs, adopted socialist obligations, stricter everyday order and organization of troop duties and higher vigilance.

9001
CSO: 1801

REVIEW OF TEXTBOOK FOR WARRANT OFFICER POLITICAL TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jun 77 p 3

[Article by Maj Gen V. Dolgov, first deputy chief of the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District Political Directorate, in the column "The Commander's Book Shelf": "For the Education of Soldiers"]

[Text] The USSR Ministry of Defense Military Publishing House published a training textbook for warrant officer (praporshchiki i michmany) political training "Principles of Political and Military Education."*

In all the varied life and combat training of units and ships, there are no tasks which warrant officers do not help solve and there are no problems which do not concern or upset them. The role of this category of command personnel in improving combat readiness and in maintaining regulation order is great. To a great extent, the level and quality of individual work in sub-units, teams and crews, the increase in soldiers' combat expertise and the strengthening of discipline and organization depends on them. Considering all this, one cannot help but point out the topicality and importance of the present textbook's publication.

The work under review consists of two sections: "Ideological and Political Training of Soviet Soldiers" and "Military Education of Army and Navy Personnel." Based on the key propositions of Marxist-Leninist theory and on scientifically reasoned, broadly developed material, the team of authors--under

"Osnovy politicheskogo i voinskogo vospitaniya. Posobiye dlya politicheskoy ucheby praporshchikov i michmanov" [Principles of Political and Military Education: A Textbook for Warrant Officer Political Training], Team of authors, Voenizdat, 1977, 320 p, price 43 k.

the guidance of Maj Gen D. Volkogonov, professor and Doctor of Philosophy--show how--under the beneficial influence of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the subsequent CPSU Central Committee Plenums and the speeches of comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee--all ideological and educational work in the Armed Forces is improving and how an in-depth study of these documents enriched the content of ideological work and increased the quality of educational measures. Warrant officers will find rich theoretical material and clear-cut recommendations for conducting educational work in the textbook.

While discussing the features of ideological and educational work in the Army and Navy, the authors direct the reader's attention to the fact that the process of a definite relaxation in international relations does not weaken class antagonism, but, on the contrary, intensifies the ideological struggle. Another feature is connected with the development of modern means and methods of conducting war. Of course, these circumstances demand from all commanders, including warrant officers, ideological maturity, serious political training and an understanding that the main thing in ideological work is the propagation of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, the fostering of utter devotion to the Motherland in Soviet soldiers and a profound awareness of their patriotic and international duty.

The textbook is also of obvious value in that it summarizes the rich experience of warrant officer educational work; concrete recommendations on the most important directions for ideological work are presented.

The authors thoroughly examine the tasks of legal education as a component of ideological work conducted in the Army and Navy. In this, they emphasize the importance of forming a legal awareness in Soviet soldiers. The three main directions of legal education are explained in the book: equipping servicemen with the necessary legal knowledge; developing a correct attitude toward the knowledge received and a belief in the obligation to observe Soviet laws and military regulations; ensuring exemplary conduct which corresponds to the requirements of Soviet laws and military regulations. The authors expound in detail on the methods and forms of legal education for Soviet soldiers.

A special chapter of the book is devoted to the topic of fostering conscientious discipline in soldiers. The nature of Soviet military discipline, which is based on the soldiers' high political awareness, their selfless devotion to the socialist Motherland, the Communist Party and the Soviet Government and

their readiness to step forward at any moment in defense of their Fatherland, is examined in it. The authors dwell at length on the forms and methods of fostering discipline, emphasizing in this the role of commanders, political bodies and party and Komsomol organizations.

Warrant officers and all readers will find in the book interesting material on the formation of healthy relationships in the military collective, the heart of which are the relationships between the commander and his subordinates. The textbook states, "Warrant officers can establish correct relationships with their subordinates if they are guided by the Leninist principles of mutual relations between the leader and subordinates." And, it further states what these principles are. Special tact, a special approach to each individual and in each concrete situation, respect for the individual, an understanding of his needs, interests and psychological and physiological condition. The leader's ability to win people over to him, to not be conceited and to conduct himself modestly is important.

Perhaps one chapter should have broadly shown how warrant officers become capable commanders and teachers as a result of the immense and purposeful work of senior commanders, political bodies and party and Komsomol organizations.

On the whole, the book "Principles of Political and Military Education" will be a great help in the work of commanders and political personnel in personnel political and military training. The book will help warrant officers to more clearly picture their place and role in training soldiers for fulfilling their honorable duty before the Motherland and to more profoundly realize that an all-round approach, which expresses the unity of political, military and moral education, will enable the successful accomplishment of the mission of forming the armed defender of the socialist Fatherland.

9001

CSO: 1801

TRAINING METHODS OF TANK UNIT COMMANDER PRAISED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jun 77 p 1

[Article by Maj Yu. Skorodumov: "A Command Character"]

[Text] In the staff tent, the chief of staff was examining the large map which covered the entire table. Lieutenant Colonel Kichatov, who had just followed the columns' advance, jotted something down in his workbook.

"The company commanded by Captain Samkov has arrived at the prescribed position," the chief of staff reported.

Kichatov shook his head with satisfaction:

"Well done."

Capt V. Samkov, the company technical supply officer, was left as commander at the subunit's most difficult time: firing and driver's training were ahead... Some of the staff personnel had their doubts: would Samkov be able to handle the new duties? But, Lt Col Kichatov said: "Have confidence." And with that, he put an end to the discussion.

Have confidence... He arrived at this formula over his years of service. Although some think he trusts people because of a character trait, Kichatov is of another opinion on this score: a command character is not given at birth; it is formed in the process of military work.

Lt Col Kichatov clearly remembers the day when his deputy for political affairs entered his office and informed him that the voters had proposed Kichatov as a candidate to the city Council of Workers' Deputies. The news was unexpected. Kichatov said:

"This is a responsible matter, Dmitriy Lukich. Am I worthy of such confidence?"

"You are," the political officer convincingly assured him. And, after a moment's silence, he reaffirmed: "You are."

During that moment, the political officer thought about the commander's main qualities. Do you know how we evaluate a person? On his relationship to the job and his relationship with people. And the military collective knows well how the commander is able to talk convincingly with people, how attentive he is toward subordinates and how he is able to influence their attitudes.

Take Capt Samkov for example. Soon after the officer was entrusted with command of the company, Kichatov decided to personally inspect the organization of tank driver training in this subunit. At the tank range, he saw a picture which was far from exemplary: the training started late.

Many were waiting: Samkov will be dressed down. But, Lt Col Kichatov calmly advised the company CO on how to begin the driver's training, recommended that he recall the experience of organizing similar lessons in neighboring subunits and then took the interphone headset and took the driver's position in the tank.

All the tankers burned with curiosity: how will the lieutenant colonel prove himself on the difficult route? But, it was as if he had specially prepared for this day: he took the tank through the obstacles as though a training film was being shot. On exiting the tank, he passed control to the company CO. And Samkov also tried--he drove the tank as well as Lt Col Kichatov. The company's tankers, inspired by the officers' example, successfully accomplished the exercise.

And officer Kichatov visited Capt Samkov at home on the same day. Capt Samkov's family needed help, and in a hurry, to send their two children to kindergarden. The officer did not dare ask himself; he knew that the kindergarden was full.

"What can we do, Ekaterina Iosifovna?" Kichatov asked the kindergarden manager, after telling her about the Samkov family situation.

"Since it's necessary, we'll think of something," said the manager.

On the very next day, everybody in the unit noticed how cheerful Capt Samkov was.

At first, service did not work out for Lt V. Panov. He went to Kichatov, frankly told him about his failures and asked for ad-

vice. And the commander, responding to this call, helped the lieutenant in a practical way. The young officer's service gradually improved.

Not just officers go to the commander. Once Sgt M. Latyshev's wife arrived. She did not arrive joyfully, but with problems. And the sergeant turned to the commander for help. Kichatov did everything he could.

City residents also come to him. The students decided to conduct a sports competition; they asked for help--they got it. The city's Komsomol members planned to go on a hike to battle sites--Kichatov also helped them. Telephone calls from the party gorkom and the gorispolkom frequently ring out in his office: "Stop by when you can; we have some important business." And he drops in, takes part in the meetings, turns things over in his mind and gives advice.

But, everyone knows: when it is necessary, the commander makes independent decisions firmly and quickly. Here's how it was at the exercises. When his superior commander arrived at the command post and ordered a report on the situation and the commander's concept, Lt Col Kichatov unfolded the map and said firmly:

"I decided..."

And a true command character is sensed in his tone, gestures and look.

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MATERIAL USED FOR INDOCTRINATION ON VIGILANCE DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jun 77 p 4

[Article by Capt V. Ignatov, chief of the officers club, garrison X, Group of Soviet Forces, Germany: "No Right to a Pause: From the Experience of Officers Club Work in Fostering Vigilance"]

[Text] Documentary films are shown on Mondays in our officers club. Recently, while sitting in the auditorium, I again heard, from the screen, the words delivered by Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev from the rostrum at the 25th CPSU Congress: "There is no place for neutralism or compromise in the struggle between the two world views. High political vigilance, active, operative and persuasive propaganda work and a timely rebuff to harmful ideological diversions are necessary here." And, again, it occurred to me that these words take on a special significance in our situation, in the situation of a group of forces located in immediate proximity to the capitalist world. This cannot help but leave its imprint on all our work.

I am deeply convinced: the measures, which have as their goal the fostering of a high level of political vigilance in soldiers, can, less than any others, be built on the repetition of generally known propositions and slogans. Interesting, creative solutions, a reasoned influence on the listener and the widest possible arsenal of forms and means of cultural-educational work are needed here. In our opinion, a meeting in the officers club on the topic "Political Vigilance--Our Weapon" was successful. Thorough preparation preceded it. Those arriving for the meeting received their first emotional impact while still in the foyer: the library personnel set up an illustrative book display there "Two Worlds--Two Systems." An exposition of the post's amateur photographers' work which depicted the soldiers' military affairs was located in the same spot, in the foyer, and served as a continuation of the display.

The invitation to the auditorium followed. Those entering were met by the chords of the manly and disturbing "Buchenwald Alarm." The documentary film recalled the events of the recent past--the robber war of the American aggressors in Vietnam. The movie served as illustrative material for the lecture--given by political worker Capt V. Serbul'--which followed it. He talked about the danger to the world's people which imperialism contains within itself and about the high level of vigilance--willed to us by Lenin--which is an obligatory quality of Soviet soldiers.

Then tape recordings of speeches by veterans of the Great Patriotic War were heard. And, like a live roll call of the generations, the responses of combat and political training experts--of those who are displaying vigilance and increasing combat readiness today, in peacetime--were heard. The evening ended with a showing of the documentary film "The Pentagon" which convincingly unmask the aggressive policy of the American militarists.

We are planning similar events once a month. As experience shows, it is not a matter of quantity here, but of quality, of deeply etching in people's minds the expressed thoughts, ideas and propositions on raising political vigilance. From this, it does not at all follow that such important work is deliberately planned at monthly intervals. Any event at the officers club--be it an evening of rest, an oral magazine reading or a film showing--cannot be ideologically neutral; as a rule, it contains within itself an active, offensive charge. For example, we always select several movie subjects which depict examples of vigilance shown by soldiers for our popular movie evenings. One of the pages of the oral magazine, "The Concern of the Party and Government for the Country's Defensive Capability," invariably is devoted to the features of service of Soviet soldiers stationed beyond the borders of the Motherland. We have lecturing bureaus working: "Implement the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress" and "The Party--The Mind, Honor and Conscience of our Epoch." The problems of the struggle for increasing vigilance are convincingly reflected in the lectures which are given by personnel from the political department and from the Marxism-Leninism University.

A special study room was set up in the officers club to unmask hostile ideology. Stands were mounted here: "Ideological Work--The Most Important Area of Communist Construction," "Two Armies--Two Moralities" and "The Enemy's Ideological Centers." Literature on vigilance and combat readiness was selected for the study; there is a selection of slides and the viewer can be used at any time. A great deal of the credit for equipping the

study goes to Sr Lt S. Nalivayko, the officers club senior instructor for propaganda and mass military work. Group political study supervisors regularly broaden their knowledge in the study and they conduct readings of Lenin on the aggressive nature of imperialism.

Nevertheless, analyzing the work of our collective in fostering political vigilance, one cannot help but notice that far from all possibilities are being used in it. At times it lacks an operational and offensive nature. The requisite political acuity is still not making itself felt in all our events. And the range of work forms could be a little broader. For example, permanent displays of new literature on the problems of the contemporary ideological struggle are completely within the capabilities of library personnel. We also do not fully use the local radio station; at times, its work simply summarizes news broadcasts. And, one must not let the servicemen's families slip from view, as we have at times. So, the reserves of unused possibilities in this area are large. And, they must be realized efficiently, effectively, offensively, by using all forms of cultural-educational work--just as the party demands of us.

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TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN HIGHER AA MISSILE COMMAND SCHOOL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jun 77 p 1

[Article by Capt 1st Rank V. Yermolayev: "The Test"]

[Text] The marks given to the cadets who acted as battery commanders, sub-unit political workers, and team leaders and members at the tactical exercise will not appear in the documents showing the results of state examinations. Nonetheless, the field launch exercises in which the graduating cadets of the Smolensk Higher Antiaircraft Missile Command School took part became a real test of their command maturity.

"All of us, commanders, political workers, teachers, and cadets, were showing the result of the work we have done," Maj Gen Arty A. Ganzha, head of the school, said. "Field launches at the range are the most complete and clearcut reflection of the cadets' level of training. Of course, we did find numerous shortcomings, but the overall evaluation allows us to conclude that the policy of organically combining theoretical training with practical was a correct one to take."

We walked through the many offices and laboratories, but our conversation kept coming back to the memorable tactical exercises with field missile launches. I do not think this was accidental. After all, it was within the walls of the school and during intensive field training periods that the groundwork had been laid for the excellent results attained at the range.

We came to the battle control classroom. A full training group was working at once. Each cadet stood in front of a control console. In addition to the instruments there were tape recorders that record commands and reports. A miniature range with a panorama of the terrain had been installed in the classroom. The technical equipment made it possible to simulate a complex situation.

"The first time I was here," cadet E. Khotyakov recalled, "my head was in a whirl. There was no way I could keep track of the changes in the tactical situation."

But it was this same training equipment, the trainers and simulators, that enabled cadet Khotyakov and his comrades to acquire the knowledge and skills which helped them perform their field fire at the range so well.

And the situation they faced there was extremely complex. Immediately after arriving from a long trip they began receiving the combat equipment. Then came quizzes, which held another surprise for the cadets: they were told to work according to reduced time norms.

It was here that the skills acquired on the trainers, during competition, came in handy. Their battle fervor, their desire to operate as if it were real battle, probably helped too. Neither the hot sun nor the roasting wind could disrupt the drills. Every minute counted, because the next day they would be performing for the referees.

They worked at night too. Communists and Komsomol members played a leading role in the competition, which was run under the slogan "An outstanding result in exercises is our gift to the 60th Anniversary of Great October." Cadet S. Lebedev, acting as deputy battery commander for political affairs, was able to organize regular totaling of results and the publication of operational news sheets. At brief meetings the communists and Komsomol members together with the commander decided which sectors should be given paramount attention and where help was needed.

Similar work was done in other cadet subunits. Everyone knew the school chief's decision: the teams with the best results in preliminary drills would be allowed to take part in combat work. And, naturally, everyone wanted to be one of the leaders.

Finally the tests were given for authorization for combat work and the last drills against real targets were conducted. After comparing the results, the strict commission concluded that the best results in competition had been achieved by the teams headed by cadets S. Komyagin, V. Baburov, and E. Khotyakov. The last two were from the battery commanded at the range by Sr Sgt A. Kovalev. This is certainly a good characterization of the command qualities of this future officer.

Then the combat vehicles reached the firing position. From this point on the cadets were completely on their own. No officer would have the right to offer any suggestions and advice or help them correct mistakes. The test of combat maturity was entering the crucial phase.

A high-speed radio-controlled target appeared in the air. Cadet A. Rubanov detected it at maximum range. Jamming was intensive, but the operator followed it confidently. It approached closer and closer to the open-fire line...

Cadet M. Khokhlov pushed the button. Seconds passed. On the screen they could see the launched missile converging with the target. A hit!

The team headed by cadet V. Baburov wiped out a second target. The team commanded by cadet S. Komyagin received the highest mark. But scores are not everything. All the graduating cadets who took part in the exercise gained final confidence in their abilities.

State examinations are beginning at the school now. They will be the final step for those who will soon be officers. But we can already say that the cadets have honorably passed a complex and important examination before graduation from school.

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CSO: 1801

EXAMPLES OF REALISTIC COMBAT TRAINING GIVEN

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jun 77 p 1

[Article by Maj L. Golovnev, Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "The Degree of Approximation"]

[Text] "The exercise took place in a situation maximally approximating that of combat." This set phrase tells a military man a great deal. So does the statement that the subunit had to wage its training battle against a strong, technically well-equipped enemy, that victory required making full use of all the capabilities of the equipment, or that the methodological skills of the organizers of the exercise enabled them to use various means of simulation effectively. But in this article I would like to deal with problems that are discussed less often.

The battalion operating as advance party did not start the encounter battle very well. But the commander was able to carry out a bold maneuver, capture the initiative, and impose his will on the enemy. Everything was hard and the motorized riflemen had to exert themselves to the utmost. By evening their success seemed assured, although there were still several unknowns in the situation.

After a thorough assessment of the situation the regimental commander gave personnel some time for rest. The ability to use forces economically and be constantly ready to continue combat actions is also an important element of troop field training.

Around midnight the commander and I walked through the subunit disposition. We wanted to see how personnel had "taken over" the field, how skillfully they had set things up for life in the field.

We met Sr Lt N. Osipov. Taking advantage of the quiet time, the officer had made up a company schedule of training periods for the next week!

"Why aren't you resting?" the regimental commander asked in surprise.

"I'll get my rest tomorrow, at home," the young company commander replied robustly.

We realized that for him the exercise had essentially ended. Knowing that the main questions of the topic had been worked through (and pretty well) and that the time reserve allotted for the exercise was almost gone, he had allowed himself to switch to other affairs.

I saw that the regimental commander was very upset by this passing observation. He walked along in silence, thinking hard, and then when we got back to the tent he sat down at the map.

In the morning events at first went just as the participants in the exercise seemed to expect: the column headed back toward the post. Then came the unexpected...

No, the regimental commander had not been wasting his time when he wrote in an additional situation on the map. It was a battle against an airborne party, an ambush at the road junction. The ambush came as a complete surprise to the personnel, officers included. These were not the usual problems; this was not the way events usually developed at an exercise. It looked as though the hardest day was not behind them.

We could see how difficult these minutes were for Senior Lieutenant Osipov, who had over-confidently refused to rest, and how hard it was for the rest of the participants in the exercise. The subunit plainly was not working smoothly together. And the reason for the lack of coordination in actions was not so much the unclear nature of the situation or physical fatigue as it was an improper psychological mood. They had not expected this turn of events. The personnel had relaxed and lowered their vigilance and now they were paying for it. The subunit which on the previous day had done well enough to claim a high mark lost all hope of receiving it in the space of 60-90 minutes.

This incident forces us to think. The training leader at an exercise always keeps his intention secret from the trainees. They do not know how events will develop from the point of view of tactics. But the length of the exercise and the general character of its course are no secret at all to them. The schedule of training periods, the exercise topic, and the scope of domestic support services tell a great deal.

But combat actions are not only a tactical face-off. They are also a test of endurance, psychological stability, and constant readiness for any turn of events. You cannot fit a battle into predetermined time frames. In war it is usually the situation that determines when you can rest and eat. Circumstances dictate the rhythm of life.

Today, when the quality of tactical exercises is measured by especially rigorous criteria, the question of the internal structure of a trip into

the field, is attracting increasing attention. This is no accident, for the degree to which the situation approximates real combat depends also on the rhythm of personnel actions. If there are no surprises in this rhythm, if the commander or political worker of the trainee unit can say to subordinates, "This is the main mission and afterwards we march back to post and rest," it means that the exercise has not been fully thought out.

I recently attended an exercise where the tension did not let up from the first minute till the last. No sooner had the assembly signal been announced than it was learned that the enemy had used targeted jamming. How could stable communications be maintained under such conditions: The commander was able to reorganize and keep firm control. It was hard to use the radio during an attack on the strongpoint too. The officer gave target indications with rockets and long and short machinegun rounds and supported the intelligent initiatives of the platoons and crews. It was noted at the review that the targets had been wiped out in a rational order, movement and fire were well-organized, and personnel had demonstrated their ability to operate in an extremely complex situation.

After the exercise district staff officer Lt Col A. Shpin' noted one more important factor, that the subunit had found itself in complex conditions from the very first moment in the field. This had a key mobilizing effect. Incidentally, the exercise also ended, as they say, on a good note, in a situation where every individual was ready to perform the next mission.

A great deal is being done among the troops to improve the training process. Personnel are striving to greet the 60th anniversary of Great October and complete the year in which the new USSR Constitution was adopted with successful fulfillment of training plans and programs and performance of socialist obligations. To achieve this personnel must be trained and indoctrinated under conditions that maximally approximate those of combat in all parameters.

11,176
CSO: 1801

AIR SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jun 77 p 4

[Article by Capt Yu. Soldatenko, Red Banner Central Asian Military District:
"The Rescuers Carry on the Search"]

[Text] The romance of military service. The fighting men of the search and rescue service are ready to come to the aid of persons in trouble whenever they receive the distress signal, in any weather, at any time of the night or day.

According to an established tradition, the Air Force flag is solemnly raised over the runway control post on flying days. It was fluttering proudly on its pole on the day in question. From the tower one could watch the planes racing off into the sky, one after the other.

Ordinary flights were underway. Then suddenly came the message: "This is number seventeen. I'm in trouble."

The crew commander's voice, which had been clearly audible on the speakers at the command post just a minute before, began to be interrupted. Like strong tidal currents the interference in the air surged up and "swallowed" the words of the pilot's report. All that could be made out was, "Collided with birds... Fire... I am losing altitude..."

"Bail out!" the flight control officer ordered.

Right after this came the order of officer V. Stepanov, broadcast by loud-speaker: "Search and rescue helicopter crew and emergency surgery brigade! Prepare for takeoff!"

I ran the distance to the helicopter parking place along with the pilots and medics. We ran as if it were a 100-meter dash. I arranged myself on the fold-out seat behind flight engineer Lt Tech Serv A. Kharlanov and plugged my head-and-chest set into the aircraft intercom.

Officer Stepanov gave the duty rescue group its search mission. Because of the strong interference in the air the bearing compasses had only

approximately established the ejection point. Pilot-navigator Lt V. Leushin marked the search quad on the map; it was a vast sector of hilly and marshy terrain with difficult observation conditions. The weather situation was not the best either: clouds were extremely low and visibility was reduced to about 900 meters.

"Mission understood. Request permission to take off," crew commander military pilot 1st class Lt Col N. Kondrat'yev reported. He was chief of the duty group this day. The search would be a complex one and it was Kondrat'yev the command had given it to. He had a solid reputation as a man capable of overcoming any difficulties. These were the qualities, in fact, which had brought him to the search and rescue service.

Kondrat'yev began his flying career in bomber aviation. In a comparatively short time there he became one of the top pilots, which had an influence on the later course of his service. The unit commander once called the young officer in. "I don't know the details," he said, "but I have heard that something completely new is being organized. You have been given the honor of being one of the first..."

So Kondrat'yev became a helicopter pilot. He performed various missions, but mostly he practiced searching for people in distress. And not only flying. During a serious flood in a certain region of Kazakhstan he spent several hours in icy water rescuing children. He came down with pneumonia and was gravely ill for a long time. Finally the doctors announced that an operation would be necessary. "But how will I fly afterward?" Kondrat'yev objected. "I am not talking about flying, I am talking about saving your life!" the doctor told him.

But Kondrat'yev could not imagine his life without aviation. After the operation he began to work even harder than before on sports. After a certain time he went up to the commander and announced, "I want to fly again."

"But you have..." the commander began, hinting at the consequences of the illness.

"Yes sir, I have a top rating in soccer, volleyball, handball..."

"Fit to fly" -- that was the finding of the medical workers. Kondrat'yev began flying again. Soon he received the state award, the "Combat Service" medal. Next he was entrusted to head a search and rescue squadron.

Our helicopter set its course for the ejection region.

There was not a wasted motion in the work of crew members. Every command was carried out easily and precisely. It could not be otherwise; after all, this was an outstanding squadron! One out of seven military rescue men had received a state award for outstanding knowledge of the combat equipment and skillful use of it.

Our helicopter came closer and closer to the target. You could sense this in everything: the commander's look became harder, and his subordinates too were more alert. The members of the emergency medical care brigade, captains of the medical service P. Lokhnitskiy, neurosurgeon, K. Rozyyev, anesthesiologist, and A. Sychev, internist, finished the last tests of the anesthetic equipment and heart stimulation instruments in the airborne operating room. In short, the doctors put their arsenal of equipment in the highest state of readiness. Of course, at this point there was no information on the condition of the persons in distress. But the medical men knew that one must be prepared for the worst. In the past they had been forced to perform urgent operations and give various types of medical care on board the helicopter. "Three minutes to the target," the pilot-navigator reported.

Three minutes to the place where the pilots who bailed out had landed? It was hard to believe that such a calculation could be accurate; after all, the crew had not received coordinates. But there was no mistake. The officer explained that the search is carried on using the readings of highly sophisticated bearing compasses. Just a short time ago they were only a dream. Recall the pilot-hero of the St. Exupery tale who made a forced landing in the desert. Planes flew over in the whitish sky above him, but he had no way to signal to the pilots...

Today we have not only developed techniques for guiding people in distress and those who are hunting for them but have also built special search equipment. Our helicopter was equipped with it. The indicator arrows of the instruments respond sensitively to a standard signal and show the direction to the transmitter of the ejected pilots. It is the readings of these instruments that enable military rescue workers to fly to the necessary point without mistake.

In exactly three minutes the helicopter dropped through the clouds. And when we came out at a low altitude a bright red fire became visible through the front window of the cabin, directly on our course.

"In the quad... a signal shell fired. I see the people," Lieutenant Colonel Kondrat'yev reported to the command post. He had put the helicopter onto the target through the clouds with jeweler's precision.

A special seat was lowered from the helicopter on a winch-operated line. The flight engineer quickly made the necessary switches on the control panel to operate the winch and lift the victims on board. Rescue work in the hover regime lasted just a minute. During this entire minute the pilots, Lieutenant Colonel Kondrat'yev and Lieutenant Leushin, skillfully held the helicopter at the assigned altitude above the strong, sharp winds.

The mission given to the military rescue workers had been performed.

"No criticisms of your work," the message from the command post said. "You worked through the training problems in full. Your score is 'outstanding.'"

Yes, they were training problems. During the drill the part of the members of the "distressed" aircraft crew was played by USSR Masters of Sport, parachute jumpers ensigns V. Timoshin and V. Paramonov. And the interference which made it impossible to determine the coordinates of the ejection region immediately and accurately was created, on instructions of the flight control officer, by Capt G. Fedotov, squadron chief of communications. But in every other respect the military rescue workers were operating as if real victims of a disaster awaited their help.

The helicopter set its course for home. Soon we were approaching the air field. The Air Force flag could be seen fluttering in the wind. And it seemed to be more than just a tribute to tradition; it seemed to be raised in honor of this latest success by the fighting men of the search and rescue service.

11,176
CSO: 1801

CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Fire-Fighting Training in the Ukrainian SSR

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 6, June 77 signed to press 12 May 77
page 19

[Article by B. Simakov: "Experience of the Volhynians"]

[Text] Personnel of the civil defense fire-fighting services of the oblasts in the Ukraine are working hard to find ways further to increase proficiency and tactical skills. Various work forms and methods are being employed more effectively. Fire-fighting equipment has become more sophisticated. All this has made it possible substantially to increase the preparedness of plant, kolkhoz and sovkhoz fire-fighting units.

Meriting particular attention is the experience of the Volynskaya Oblast civil defense fire-fighting services. These services are greatly assisted by party and soviet agencies as well as civil defense headquarters. Specific civil defense engineering-technical measures plans are regularly examined and approved at meetings of the executive committees of local soviets, directors of enterprises, organizations and farms submit reports, and civil defense exercises are held.

Endeavoring to raise the level of preparedness of fire-fighting services in rural rayons, the oblast service has worked up a schedule for inspecting them. The inspection materials are thoroughly studied, and conclusions are communicated to the units involved. Frequently rayon civil defense fire-fighting service chiefs submit reports on their activities to the oblast fire-fighting service headquarters. Headquarters prepares survey reports on the state of affairs locally.

In addition, inspector personnel regularly conduct fire inspections of facilities in rural areas, verifying observance of fire prevention measures. The results are submitted for discussion by the executive committees.

Coordinated action between civil defense services in fire-fighting operations is arranged in the oblast through civil defense headquarters. When the Kovel' grain products warehouse caught fire, for example, communications

center dispatcher G. Chernukha immediately reported the fire to Kovel's civil defense chief, A. Strekov, and Strekov immediately summoned the engineer and municipal-technical services to fight the fire, in addition to police and medical services. Fire-fighting train squads responded to the alarm, as did three nonmilitary civil defense unit fire-fighting teams. The grain and the warehouse were saved as a result of the swift, efficient response.

Successful performance of fire-fighting measures is also promoted by a businesslike relationship between the fire-fighting service, oblast and rayon civil defense courses. Headquarters and fire-fighting service management team personnel regularly present lectures at courses for directors of enterprises, kolkhozes, engineers, technicians, kolkhoz chairmen and sovkhos directors, and conduct classes with them on important fire protection topics.

In Lutskiy Rayon of this oblast fire-fighting service chief A. Rapa kept detailed records on changes taking place in the economic affairs of the rayon (construction of new economic installations, roads, expansion of water supply systems, etc). This makes it possible promptly to introduce the necessary revisions in the service's schedule and consequently improves the effectiveness of its efforts.

The oblast civil defense fire-fighting service headquarters devotes much attention to furnishing the fire-fighting units of the rayons equipment and special gear, as well as individual protective gear. In Lutskiy Rayon, for example, 26 out of 29 farms have already built fire stations. Sixteen of these have special vehicles, while the rest have motorized pumps and farm equipment adapted for putting out fires.

Training of the personnel of the fire-fighting units of the directorate of internal affairs, the teams and squads of the rayon civil defense fire-fighting units is based on practical training, in the course of which a warning system is elaborated. An exercise in Lutskiy Rayon was attended by the chiefs of the fire-fighting units of all farms in the rayon. In order to increase fire safety they dismantled, with the consent of the director of the farm where the exercise was held, a wooden stable, a shed addition to the hog house, etc.

The people of Volynskaya Oblast have also made an effort to organize stable communications with all rayon services. A telephone switchboard has been set up at oblast fire-fighting service headquarters, providing direct communications with city and rayon services and enterprises.

An important place in high-quality training of civil defense fire-fighting service and rescue unit personnel is assigned by the people of Volynskaya Oblast to sports activities and competitions. One can often hear sirens wailing at the stadium of the Lutsk fire department. This means that competitions among industrial enterprise and kolkhoz civil defense fire-fighting units have begun. Each element in the competitions requires of the

participants good physical stamina, agility, and precision. The top performers at the last such competitions were the representatives of the Kolkhoz imeni Zhdanov. They had the highest team score. In second place was the team from the Kolkhoz imeni Kalinin in Kamen'-Kashirskiy Rayon, while the Lutsk Plastic Products Plant was in third.

The Lutskiy Rayon fire-fighting service is rightly considered the best in Volhynia. It is not surprising that it won the socialist competition in the first year of the 10th Five-Year Plan. All preventive civil defense measures are carried out precisely on schedule. At the present time, striving to honor the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution in worthy fashion, the service is successfully carrying out fire-fighting measures.

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Discussion on Training of Medical Aid Teams

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 6, June 77 signed to press 12 May 77 pp 20-21

[Article: "Letters Debate...."]

[Text] As our mail has indicated, the article by M. Gogolev and V. Nesterenko entitled "Following the New Program," published in the "Your Opinion" section (No 4, 1976), drew the attention of many readers. In their replies they discuss with great interest the questions raised in the article, agree or disagree with the authors, referring to their own personal experience, and make valuable suggestions. What resulted was a debate by mail on proposed changes in the Statute on medical aid team competitions.

We have selected for publication letters which represent various points of view.

Where Are the Judges?

This is perhaps the most urgent question. Although there are a sufficient number of qualified medical personnel locally, there is everywhere a shortage of well-trained judges capable of correctly rating the performance of competing medical assistance teams. Here too the opinion of our readers is unanimous; doctors should be specially trained for this; regulations should be ratified which are equally mandatory for all, regulations which do not so much list the authorities and obligations of judges or specify their activities at competitions as contain a clear-cut program and an elaborated method of training them. Workers in the field are waiting for precisely such a document, with the issuing of which there would no longer be such comments as those contained in a letter written by medical aid team commanders at two Minsk plants, N. Yurkovets and G. Porubeyko: "A judge should have more knowledge than the contestants."

Ye. Agadzhanian, chairman of the Volgogradskaya Oblast Red Cross Committee, devoted a large part of his letter to a matter of vital significance --

difficulties in putting together a body of judges for competitions at various levels. He begins with a convincing example. He states that 29 judges are required to watch all phases of competition and to grade the performance of just one medical assistance team. Is this not a rather large figure? Is it feasible to put together so many officials for competitions at the enterprise level, for example? At the Volgograd Medical Equipment Plant there are five medical aid teams, while at the factory dispensary there is one doctor and two paramedics. This situation is quite common. An enterprise will usually call in doctors from polyclinics, hospitals, and neighboring dispensaries. Therefore Agadzhanyan suggests that enterprise competitions be viewed as review competitions for testing the knowledge of medical aid teams not covering the complete program but rather an abbreviated one, and not all team members, but selectively. Fewer judges will be required.

City and oblast competitions are another thing altogether. But even here, states the author of the letter, the number of judges can be brought to 18 with simultaneous combining of the competition stages.

An opposite view is held by V. Ivleva, chairman of the Moskovskaya Oblast Red Cross Committee. She claims that one should not reduce the enterprise competition program, the number of stages and the number of judges. This is apparently because in Moskovskaya Oblast there are better capabilities, and the Moskovskaya Oblast committee has no problems in this area. Ivleva's arguments, however, although new, are fairly convincing. She suggests having permanent judging panels, with their size determined by the scale of the competition. The main thing is that the makeup of the panels be as stable as possible, with retiring judges replaced by well-trained individuals. Bodies of judges at oblast competitions can be made up of rural doctors certified as judges.

A good deal is also determined by the duration of competitions. One day would be the ideal. Comrade Ivleva recommends that competition be conducted at one time with all medical aid teams and aid stations in a special area equipped for this purpose, and if necessary it could be handled simultaneously in two or three groups. It is also easier to obtain for just one day doctor-judges assigned by medical establishments. With all the above-enumerated conditions, competitions in Moskovskaya Oblast are conducted successfully. We must admit that this suggestion does provide a certain solution to the difficulties.

V. Petrov, section chief at Moscow Civil Defense Headquarters, takes a middle position in this debate about judges. Basing his opinion on the experience of rayon medical aid team competitions in Moscow, he supports the idea of reducing the size of judging panels, not in an arbitrary manner but specified by regulations and strictly taking into account the competition level.

All letters express the hope that a reasonable minimum will be established in the new competition regulations, and that at the same time there will be

a solution to the problem of standard judging forms convenient for use under field conditions (pamphlets, grade books). All this will unquestionably improve the quality and objectivity of judging and will prevent the occurrence of conflict situations. The letters contain many reasonable suggestions on regulating relations between judges and competition participants.

In Search of Time

The number of medical assistance teams participating in the same competitions is increasing year by year, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to hold them in a single day. Readers are persistently looking for where time can be saved, and consequently material expenditures as well. Comrade Agadzhanyan recommends that activities in the "nuclear" and "chemical" stricken areas be combined in a single stage. For the sake of reducing time requirements and in order not to disrupt the dynamics of competition, the questioning on knowledge of theory in the "infected area" should be eliminated, with it included in the "Theory Competition." In a combined "nuclear-chemical stricken area" they should work in three elements in the first and two in the second. Not the entire team but only three elements should enter the "infection-stricken area." One element for taking samples and the other for preparing disinfectant solutions and performing decontamination, and the third for building-by-building and apartment-by-apartment rounds.

Readers are particularly unanimous in advocating total abolishing of "Drill Training" as a separate stage of competition and back up this suggestion with well-reasoned arguments. The training program does not call for drill, and not even 1 hour is allocated to drill. In addition, it would be entirely feasible to grade the carriage and bearing of medical aid team members, their appearance and outfitting during the general formation, during the official parade, and while commanders are reporting readiness. The purely parade aspect of the competition will suffer a bit, but time is more precious.

Comrade Ivleva does not agree with this point of view. She is against changes. In addition, she suggests that the competition be run by civil defense headquarters. Why? Training of medical aid teams and stations, including the holding of competitions, is organized by Red Cross and Red Crescent committees jointly with public health agencies according to civil defense headquarters schedules. In addition, civil defense headquarters involve medical units along with other nonmilitary units in various types of civil defense exercises, in fighting natural disasters, responding to major accidents, etc. This system has been tested, is running smoothly, and has proven itself. Why should it be changed?

In view of the fact that medical aid team personnel experience turnover and that it is necessary to maintain training continuously at the requisite level, Comrade Ivleva insists that one hold competitions at every level, including at the enterprise level, with appropriate volume of testing, for all stages presently existing, testing the knowledge and skills of medical

aid team personnel as is presently being done. She suggests that at enterprise competitions one add verification of the realisticness of warning and assembly plans. Competitions should be held on a single day, while performance critique and announcement of the results should be designated for any other day, in order that the judging panels can leisurely total up the results and report on them, reconvening designated representatives, commanders, political instructors and instructors.

We assume that all the pluses and minuses of the presented suggestions will be weighed by those who make the final decision.

No Retreat From Achieved Performance

Considerable expense was required to furnish medical aid teams with all the requisite equipment and supplies, particularly for exercises and competitions. Therefore the "Check Equipment" stage is considered by all to be one of the most important.

Col Gen V. Chizh, Ukrainian civil defense chief of staff, expressed the general view laconically and precisely: "Equipment is one of the elements of preparedness." We must be adequately demanding in this area, notes V. Petrov. G. Tarnovskiy, from Belorussian Civil Defense Headquarters, states that if we reduce demandingness on equipment and supplies, if we diminish the responsibility of enterprise civil defense headquarters officials for their medical aid teams, this will inevitably reflect on the required preparedness. Comrade Ivleva states that today it is finally possible to furnish fully-equipped medical aid pouches to all team members and insists that enterprise management be blamed for each instance where there is a lack of any item of standard equipment and that one demand that the missing equipment be acquired.

Readers are in equal agreement with the authors of the article in their suggestion that a "price" (in points) be designated for each object. G. Tarnovskiy states that it is wrong to impose an equal fine of one point for the absence of such different-value items as coveralls or pins. And yet many readers suggest that failure to have a medical pack be penalized the sum total of penalty points represented by each individual item in the pack. What we must do is put together a well-conceived "price list" on all medical aid team gear.

Even at this important "Check Equipment" stage readers are looking for ways to save time. They suggest, for example, not checking all but only one or two elements, at the judge's choice.

Readers suggest that in addition to checking gear and equipment, it is necessary to test ability to handle it. Comrade Petrov relates a curious case which he witnessed. A medical aid team member, holding up to a "victim" the individual dosimeter from her pack, attempted to measure his level of radioactive contamination. Comrade Petrov emphasizes that stiff penalties should be assessed for mistakes of this kind.

Also reasonable in our opinion is the suggestion that the ability to use a gas mask be included in this stage of the inspection (leaving for the "chemical stricken zone" the grading of placing a gas mask on a "victim").

In connection with the discussion about gear and equipment, practical workers mention their dream of having a special training facility or area at presently-existing civil defense centers, where teams could be gathered together for competitions at any level, for special tactical drills and exercises.

Readers also discuss simulation of "stricken areas" and "victims." Comrade Petrov offers good advice: skillfully place in "stricken areas" various materials at hand and assess penalties for the inability to spot and correctly utilize them.

All are concerned by the question of centralized manufacture of simulation kits for competition. Comrade Agadzhanian recalls a case where medical aid team members, unexpectedly spotting simulated victims with clear, easily-recognizable simulated injuries, stalled around, wasting valuable time. Comrade Ivleva claims that with good simulation of "victims," the quality of aid rendered improves appreciably, medical aid team members develop psychological fortitude, and the sense of fear at the site of "wounds" and "blood" disappears.

Since the new training program for medical aid personnel devotes considerable attention to their psychological conditioning, it is high time to settle the matter of producing simulation kits.

Relationship Between Time and Quality

M. Zhuk, medical aid team political instructor at an enterprise in the city of Minsk, made a good comment on this relationship: "A person's life depends on how fast we render aid." This feeling of responsibility, civic and medical duty distinguishes letters written by medical aid personnel. Many speak of a particularly solicitous attitude toward the "serious victims" and state that they should be given assistance "unscheduled" by the program. Such practical actions should perhaps receive a higher grade than a rote-learned answer to the question: how else can one help a "victim"? But do the judges take formal note of this?

Comrade Petrov suggests that the new competition regulations call for a penalty for failure to assist. This is an act incompatible with the high calling of a sister of mercy. In such a case, he insists, the guilty party should be penalized a number of points for each manipulation not performed for a given injury.

Limiting the time for rendering assistance (not to the detriment of its quality) disciplines competition participants and places additional responsibility on them, some of our readers write. Unfortunately the term "average time" is not precisely defined in the present regulations and is

variously interpreted by judges. Many agree with the authors of the article that a team should not be rewarded for reducing this time, but penalty points should be given for exceeding it. The entire point is that grading criteria which take both time and quality into account should be thoroughly thought out, without any subjectivism.

One Day Summarizes an Entire Year

Everybody awaits competitions nervously -- the instructors who have trained the girls, the supervisors who have equipped their medical aid personnel for "combat," the competition organizers, the judges, the fans, and of course the competitors themselves. This day is an examination at the end of the school year, consisting of classroom sessions and training drills in the field, of practical work at medical establishments, health education and health improvement efforts in the shop or on the farm, as well as participation in exercises and in activities following natural disasters.

This is also a solemn, festive day. The medical aid personnel, prepared to demonstrate their skill and abilities, want to have for this day a parade uniform (where and how can one be ordered?), an identifying badge, an emblem, and they would like their efforts to be recorded for posterity by a film or TV cameraman, with events reported by radio or in the newspapers. This is an entirely understandable desire, and it would be a good thing if competition organizers would not forget about this aspect of things, as an effective moral incentive.

The medical aid personnel themselves reflect their daily work in journals, health bulletins, wall newspapers, combat leaflets, photo displays, etc. They bring these things to the competitions and determine whose visual propaganda is most interesting, vivid, and skillfully presented. Readers support the authors of the article in agreeing that exhibits should be graded not for the physical size of the display stands and wealth of presentation, as is sometimes the case, but rather for the content, for genuinely innovative ideas.

Some people suggest rating visual propaganda by a special panel of judges consisting not only of medical specialists, political workers and propagandists, but also journalists, photo correspondents, and artists. Comrade Chizh suggests utilizing during competitions compact visual propaganda as a means of immediate information dissemination, reflecting the course of competition, and ensuring publicity for competition results. The work of the political organizers will also be more evident.

We cannot ignore the request by medical aid team personnel to establish a standard form of dress, not only working garb but also parade uniform. When an enterprise is wealthier and the clothing is more elegant, unequal conditions are created. Everybody agrees that the best thing would be to arrange commercial manufacture of uniforms.

We should like to inform our readers that the Executive Committee of the USSR Union of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is interested in receiving their well-substantiated views and ideas on these matters. Please send all suggestions, comments and requests to this body (117036, Moscow, Pervyy Chermushkinskiy Pereulok, 5).
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Training for Youngsters in Pioneer Camps

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 6, June 77 signed to press 12 May 77
page 23

[Article by S. Semenov: "Advice to Youth Indoctrinators"]

[Text] Ten years experience in working with children on civil defense at Pioneer camps convinces us that when properly organized it can be fairly effective.

What forms does this work assume? With Pioneers and schoolchildren we organize in the summer quiz games, training drills, competitions, outings, relays, games in the field, and showing of films and filmstrips on civil defense. These activities are organized by the senior Pioneer leaders, teachers, physical education instructors, medical personnel, and representatives of the civil defense courses and staffs of those enterprises to which the Pioneer camps belong.

Each year, prior to leaving for camp, trade union, Komsomol and DOSAAF organizations, health and public education agencies, with the active participation of civil defense staffs and courses, hold basic seminars. We should like to warn the organizers of these seminars against substituting purely theoretical for practical measures.

Working with children requires a lively, differentiated approach, taking their age into consideration. Verification frequently indicates, however, that seminars have for the most part involved delivery of lectures, while nobody taught the future organizers practical activities. Let us take physical education instructors as an example. They know how to run tests to meet Prepared for Labor and Defense standards in running, swimming, ball throwing, etc, but many have no knowledge whatsoever of the performance requirements of the Nationwide Prepared for Labor and Defense complex in the "civil defense" division. At times they are not even aware of a corresponding order issued by the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Committee on Physical Culture and Sports and by the Chief of USSR Civil Defense.

Or take Pioneer leaders. As a rule these are college student-Komsomol members, young production workers, trade union and DOSAAF activists. The majority are all-around athletes, with training in civil defense as well, but unfortunately they are not always familiar with the civil defense program studied in the schools. Therefore an incorrectly conducted basic seminar provides little.

The following can be said about Pioneer camp administrative personnel -- the director, his assistants and counselors: the most typical gaps in their preparation for the summer season involve the inability correctly to plan civil defense measures and to carry them out on a large scale.

Civil defense headquarters and course personnel are usually assigned to Pioneer camps. First of all they themselves should possess a mastery of methods of organization and conduct of all practical civil defense measures with adolescents, and they should know how to combine them with games, the element of competition, and how to utilize modern technical devices and all the information furnished children by movies, radio and television. Personnel assigned to a camp must be able to explain and demonstrate in a practical manner how one goes about passing the Prepared for Labor and Defense standards in the "Civil Defense" division, the forms of various documents and how to prepare them. He should be prepared to assume the role of a detachment leader when he enlists the participation of children in practice drills, competitions, and quiz games. He must assist the camp director and senior Pioneer leader in arranging the camp's overall civil defense measures schedule, he must conduct appropriate instruction sessions for detachment leaders and check progress in these activities. We shall note that verbal explanations alone are insufficient for such instruction sessions. Just as at basic seminars prior to the beginning of the summer season, practical exercises are the most clearly-understandable activities in this area.

The main thing is that everybody must remember at all times that children do not like boring, drawn-out classes. Makes things dynamic, exciting, competitive for them.

We also draw attention to another thing: in no case should civil defense measures be separated from other Pioneer activities. Forms and methods of combining one and the other must be sought in order to ensure that nobody refuses to participate, but on the contrary where all the children will seek participation in any activity.

Civil defense day, for example, is such a form of approach. At many camps it becomes a genuine holiday for Pioneers. But if the camp leaders approach organization of such a day with an attitude of merely checking off another item on the activities list, the activity will surely be boring and be burdensome rather than attractive to the children. Before organizing a civil defense day at camp, the program schedule must be thought through thoroughly and by the entire staff.

The following innovations, for example, have recently been adopted and have proven effective: the children themselves speaking over the camp radio, relating how one had become a champion in putting on a gas mask or in fast preparation of a gauze and cotton wadding field dressing; independent publishing of news flash sheets and photo exhibits without pushy adult supervision, publicizing not only the top marksmen or quiz

performers but also civil defense activists -- the best Pioneer scouts, fire fighters, and medical aid team nurses. We must achieve more extensive preparation of visual aids by the children themselves. In other words, the adults should only monitor and verify. There should be greater independence and initiative on the part of the children.

As we know, facilities and equipment are the major component. Visual aids, filmstrips, projection equipment, gas masks, instruments, etc, should be delivered to the camp in advance. This is the responsibility of the civil defense chiefs at economic installations with summer recreation facilities for children. At the present time practically all Pioneer camps are being furnished the requisite equipment.

All equipment lent by enterprises to a Pioneer camp should be logged, assigned to specific individuals and stored in conformity with current instructions. Gas masks, for example, should be kept in pouches, in the vertical position, not simply dumped in piles. And that which members of the "Skillful Hands" group built during the summer -- model rockets, airplanes, warships, rudimentary shelters, economic installations, sets of warning markers, etc -- should subsequently be sent to the schools as training aids.

Before summer begins, special camp committees are formed, made up of civil defense headquarters personnel. One their duties is to check the readiness of camp civil defense facilities for Pioneers and schoolchildren. We must note that the majority of Pioneer camps begin the summer in an organized manner. Good relations with base enterprises are established, and all requisite supplies and equipment are taken to the camps in time for the camp session. Unfortunately in some places this is delayed until the middle of the summer, or large quantities of unnecessary equipment are taken to the camp, but not that which is needed for the children.

Advice on methods of conducting civil defense activities at Pioneer camps has been offered on numerous occasions in the journal VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA. Therefore we merely urge that mistakes of past years be borne in mind, in order that they not be repeated.

This is a jubilee summer for Pioneers and schoolchildren. It is the 10th anniversary of the "Zarnitsa" (Summer Lightning) nationwide military game. As we know, elements of civil defense occupy an important place in this program. This anniversary will be celebrated not only at the national "Zarnitsa" finals in Ul'yanovsk but also at every Pioneer camp. In connection with this, summer activities schedules must be planned out with particular care.

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CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING IN MOLDAVIA

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 14 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by D. Nikolayev: "With High Enthusiasm"]

[Text] We have an established tradition: students improve in the extra-curricular mass defense activities system the knowledge and practical skills they have acquired in basic military training classes. Taking part in exercises, competitions, competitive reviews, military sports games, outings to sites of revolutionary, combat and labor glory of the Soviet people, camps, and quiz games, they receive excellent practical training, physical and moral-psychological conditioning.

"Among the diversified forms of extracurricular activities," states Candidate of Economic Sciences N. G. Mitish, director of the Moldavian Planning-Economic Sovkhoz-Technical School, "of particular significance to us is the comprehensive enterprise civil defense exercise."

Nikolay Georgiyevich explains that the exercise enables the collective -- students, workers and employees -- to transfer, as it were, into complex situation conditions and, on the tactical background of this situation, to work out in a practical manner an entire complex of protective measures against mass destruction weapons and recovery from results of "aggressor" employment of mass destruction weapons.

Behind this statement by N. G. Mitish lies thorough knowledge of the fundamentals of organization and conduct of civil defense, a clear understanding of the unity and indivisibility of the interests of civil defense and the socialist economy, and an effort to find in this optimal forms of indoctrinating youth.

A training methods conference of leader personnel was held in Gysk at the beginning of the current school year. Civil defense chiefs from village soviets, economic enterprises, schools, and party organization secretaries studied the experience and know-how of the sovkhov-technical school and attended a demonstration comprehensive exercise. This was a graphic lesson on methods of civil defense organization and training.

Recently another comprehensive exercise was held here.

Preparatory work began with a conference of top-echelon personnel. Then a mass-political work plan was approved at a meeting of the party committee, at which tasks were specified for Komsomol members, trade union activists, DOSAAF, the Red Cross, the Znaniye Society, and village soviet deputies.

Practice drills were conducted with the personnel of nonmilitary units. At supplementary classes conducted by military training officer N. I. Pupyurin and other instructors, students from all courses and groups, workers and employees not members of the units worked on practical actions connected with performing various tasks.

Practical classes were combined with the performance of practical jobs -- they built and equipped the training center with a fallout shelter, classrooms, offices, training stations and outdoor facilities. They prepared many visual aids and cloth dust masks. They adapted as fallout shelters basements and cellars, and sealed wells, stock buildings, food and feed storage facilities.

At the central farmstead, in the production brigades, sections and livestock units, personnel engaged in cleanup, grading, planting trees, fire prevention, sanitation and hygiene measures. Considerable initiative in all these activities was displayed by F. U. Katan and M. I. Malchev, assistants of the sovkhos civil defense chief.

The days were filled with diversified military-patriotic measures -- a film lecture team operated, with instructors and members of the Znaniye Society speaking before showing films; a civil defense quiz game was held, and there was a civil defense exhibit. A sovkhos newspaper and wall newspapers publicized the performance of leading civil defense performers in the course of preparations for the exercise.

Preparatory work became increasingly intensified.

...The silence was pierced by an air-raid warning. People rushed to the shelters. Some time later, when the radioactive contamination warning was announced, gas masks, respirators, cloth dust masks and cotton-gauze wrappings were broken out.

Early the next morning the simulated situation became considerably worsened: as a result of a "nuclear explosion" in the closest town, the sovkhos was in a zone of light damage and radioactive contamination. The civil defense chief, his assistants and staff quickly organized reconnaissance, estimated the situation, and made a tactically intelligent decision: rescue and emergency repair operations were to be initiated. The efforts of the teams and of the entire civilian population were focused on the sovkhos, while a composite team was to travel by truck to assist the "stricken" town.

Team personnel displayed organization and performed with precision and confidence. A particularly outstanding job was done by the subunits under the command of N. I. Terz', V. I. Yevteyev, V. S. Shugay, K. D. Stepanenko, N. S. Brashnikov and others.

The comprehensive exercise also revealed a number of deficiencies. Not all students had firmly mastered the skills of rapid utilization of individual protective gear and had insufficiently firmly mastered techniques of self-help and mutual assistance "with casualties."

All this was discussed in detail at the end of the exercise. Concrete tasks were immediately specified for achieving further improvement in the quality and effectiveness of training the students and all personnel of the sovkhos-technical school in civil defense.

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END